

RECREATION

Formerly THE PLAYGROUND

— March, 1933 —

Leisure

By Angelo Patri

They Voted "Yes" for Recreation

Fellowship With the Unknown Soldier

By E. B. De Groot

Giving the City Charm

By F. N. Evans

Lo - the Poor Judge!

By Mabel Foote Hobbs

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RECREATION

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Courage!

NEVER before have men needed music, reading, athletics as they do this minute. Those in charge of recreation in our communities have as great a responsibility as those who handle relief.

The immediate present holds little of hope and cheer—without. Within—men must keep their courage, must play their part as men, show that they have inner resources for living.

First and foremost men must keep active if they are to continue to be themselves, to keep their courage, to keep a degree of cheerfulness. Read. Sing. Play games with the children. Make pieces of furniture for the family. Share skills and knowledge with others. Keep human relationships warm and satisfying.

Mental and social health depend on mental, yes, and physical activity. Men cannot hibernate. The unused arm withers. Life unused just disappears, is gone, and you cannot find it. Air, ventilation, activity, safeguard mind and body from poison, tension, burning up, from deadness.

The routine of life must go on for all even in times like these—must go on with the maximum of normality, of courage, of vigor, of cheer—no matter what the load on the human spirit.

There must be enough of rebellion to make impossible the long continuation of intolerable conditions. Yet on the stage of life men must take their places and play their parts even though their hearts are heavy.

This is a world of children, of young people, of old and feeble, with many who are helpless. Those who are able-bodied, those who are fairly normal-minded, who are mature, must show their calibre, must be helped to keep up their best.

In war, in polar adventure, in shipwreck at sea, men have shown what manhood can be. Present times are even harder on men's spirits because longer drawn out, not so soon over, less dramatic.

It is up to recreation leaders—even though city governments have taken away many of their workers, have reduced salaries, have left them with scant resources, even though part of their work must be carried on with volunteers who have had little training,—it is up to recreation leaders with their own courage high, to give all they have to keep unemployed and employed active, to keep men normal, to keep men *men* in the fullest sense.

There is no greater calling at the present moment than to be a recreation worker giving a measure of leadership to people without work, who are eating the tasteless bread of charity, wearing old clothes, coming from poorly heated homes.

Let there be warmth at the community recreation center that warms to the marrow of the bone.

No resourcefulness, no depth of good will, no lion-heartedness is too great for the recreation leader now.

His task is not of education—adult education are far too cold and forbidding words to describe his opportunity. It is for him to help maintain the art of life in this part of a sick world, to help maintain sanity in a world where we all know there is hunger with too much food, cold with too much fuel, lack of clothing with too much cloth. It is for him to do his part in helping to prove that life may be still worth living because the inner resources of the human spirit are through activity maintained unimpaired.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.



Courtesy Charlotte, North Carolina, Park and Recreation Commission

Leisure

A well-known educator urges training on a new principle based on the creative impulse.



Courtesy *The Journal of the National Education Association*

INTO MY office come all sorts of people on all kinds of missions. The last few months have brought a veritable army. All day long they march in and out, always on the same errand. They need help. They have lost their jobs and want help to re-establish themselves. I listen, saddened by the burden of distress these people carry.

Many are well educated. They are trained. They have had experience. "I am a university graduate. I have passed the examination for a teacher's license. I have specialized in foreign languages. And yet I haven't had a day's work in six months. I've walked the streets begging for work, any sort of work. Surely in this great school system you have need of such a person as I?"

Scarcely had he disappeared when a woman took the chair at my elbow. "I am a trained writer. I lost my job when the paper was merged with another. Since then I haven't been able to find work. I've used up the last dollar I had saved, and don't know where to turn. Isn't there something I can do that will give me food and shelter? Anything to earn my living?"

Sadly I shook my head, I had nothing to offer but sympathy, and she could hardly be expected to live on that.

Then a boy came. His shabby clothes and general "let downness" told his

By

ANGELO PATRI

story with an eloquence his halting tongue could never approach.

"Can you give me a job? I'm on the street. I might come back to school but what's the use, I never was any good at lessons. For a year now I've been in and out of work, mostly out. That isn't getting me anywhere. What am I going to do?"

Well, this one I can help a little. He is still young enough, flexible enough, to go back to school and under the right direction learn to adjust himself. But when the school gets through with him a second time, what then? That's what is bothering me. What's going to happen to this boy and the millions like him? What is ahead of the next generation? What preparation can we give them that will lessen the idle army, now marching footlessly up the hill and down again? What can we do to make life bearable for the people of the new day? Surely it is plain that the

amount of work calling for the use of man-power is going to be reduced even beyond what it is at present. A friend of mine who, a few years ago, employed twenty thousand men, now needs only two thousand to

Mr. Patri, Principal of one of New York City's great public schools, is the author of many articles and books on child training. This address, broadcast on the seventh of December, is published here through the courtesy of Mr. Patri and the Cream of Wheat Corporation, Minneapolis.

do the same amount of work. He is looking forward to the day when he can reduce the number of workers in his plants to two hundred. He is glad that man has been relieved of the burden of labor. He is glad that man is to be further relieved. But what is to happen to these thousands of unemployed people?

Is it possible that the long-cherished dream of the worker has come true? Is it true that the hunger for leisure, for time to commune with one's soul, for time to enjoy beauty and peace and friendship has become a reality? It would seem as if the millenium has fallen upon us. It has fallen upon us like a thunder-clap, suddenly, unexpectedly, and found us unprepared. Leisure and time—time to do all the things we dreamed of doing but never found time to do—are upon us. Yet somehow we are unprepared to take advantage of the cultural values that are inherent in leisure time.

And that is why, as a teacher, I am seriously thinking about the difficulties of the present day and about those that the new generation will have to face. The schools failed to look ahead. We must not make that mistake with the children of the new generation. How can we train them so that they may profit by the element of leisure that looms so large in their lives? Are we going to allow leisure to wreck our lives? Shall we let leisure, the goal of man's efforts, destroy our children? What can we do to meet the challenge that this wealth of time has put upon us? It would be bitter indeed to have reached the millenium and found nothing but emptiness.

There's only one answer. We cannot stop the machines. We cannot go back to the ways of yesterday. We must master a new technique. We must learn how to use leisure for the good of mankind.

We learned how to work. We preached the nobility of labor. Patiently, persistently, we tackled the jobs that lay ahead of us. We mastered the idea that success lay in hard work; and now, with equal determination, we must learn a new art, the wholesome use of leisure. What shall we do to help our children enjoy the free-

dom that our continuous labor has brought upon them? Leisure that once was a by-product of our existence, is now to be the main business of living. It always was important. We always felt that it was during leisure that we developed spiritual values, that we did the things we liked to do, that we re-created our souls. We worked and hoped and struggled and saved and invented, so that one day we might have time enough to do the thing that was nearest to our heart's desire. We always felt a little disappointed because the time stolen from labor, the vacations, were all too short. Now that all is to be changed. We have the time, we have the means, we should be ready to enjoy the arts, the sports, the crafts. We should be ready to develop our intelligence, our altruism, our social science. We should be ready to subordinate money, and power, and mechanism. We should be ready for emancipation, to turn our backs upon bigotry, cowardice, selfishness. We would be, if our schools had been wise to see ahead of their time.

What shall we do with the new school for the new day? Have we the courage and the wisdom to meet the challenge of leisure and so train our children that they will find the new day one of hope and gladness, one where leisure is their birthright and cul-

ture their heritage?

How can we profit by the experiences of this day of trouble and emerge from a civilization of servitude into one that sheds new light on the meanings of life? Children must be taught to use the leisure time aright. No human being can remain idle for any length of time without protest. The spirit of man must have food. That food is found in doing something that one likes to do. In idleness lies danger.

When the machines carried the work of home into the shops and laboratories, home was emptied of its vitality. It is always so. When an institution loses the stimulus of creative work it loses meaning. Unless creative work becomes part and parcel of the life of the school it cannot hope to prepare children for the era of machine-made service.

So I say that the next generation must be



Courtesy Board of Recreation, Greenwich, Conn.

"We are ready now to take the curse out of labor. But we must make sure to take the poison out of idleness."

trained upon a new principle, one founded on the creative impulse of humanity. Through that it will cultivate spirituality and achieve its soul. People who do not know what to do with their leisure time are already giving themselves and other people a lot of trouble. If they had something within themselves on which they could draw for support in their leisure time they would be an asset instead of a liability to themselves and to the community. We must do our utmost to develop in every child the peculiar personal power that makes him a person. We must keep alive and cultivate his creative imagination. We must teach him to know the thrill of creation and find life bearable.

The school must do this for its children. It must come alive and set the stage so that they are prepared for the new day.

Is leisure valuable? Should the school feel justified in cultivating a taste and a technique for leisure? Surely. We are ready now to take the curse out of labor. But we must make sure to take the poison out of idleness.

This is no easy task for any school. It is never easy to help a child create his own personal self. It requires great sympathy, deep understanding. Growth is flexible. The school must accept the changing child, and aim at freeing the child's mind of fear and releasing his gifts and powers.

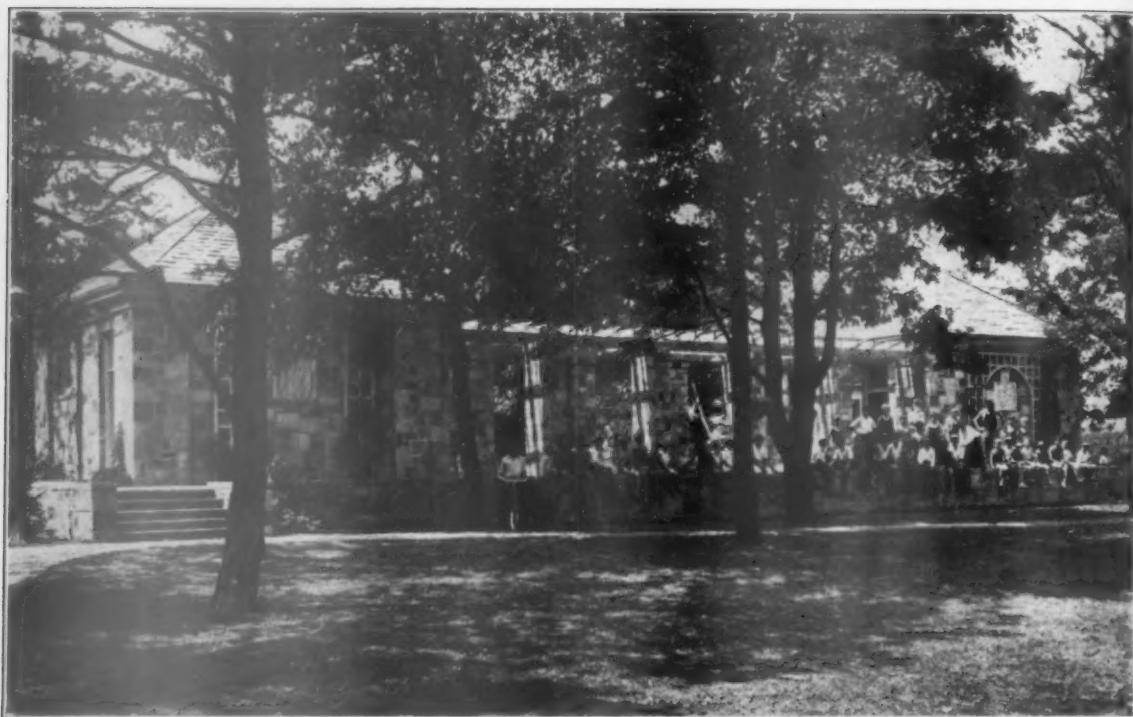
One of my friends lost patience with me and said: "You'd turn the children into a lot of half-baked poets and third rate artists if you had your way. And those you couldn't make into poets you'd turn into craftsmen. We have too many people of that kind now and they can't earn a living."

No, I know better than that. I am concerned with what is happening to human beings. Unless the work a child is taught to do holds a rewarding joy born of the creative impulse, the job falls flat. The child goes elsewhere in search of higher values. It is by doing the thing that he likes, the thing that is an expression of his inner self, the thing that allows his creative power to function, that the child gets an appreciation of his own strength—gets a feeling of tolerance for others, an enthusiasm for mastery of technique. It is through this that he forms enduring friendship. It is from this that he derives his notions of right and wrong. It is through this that he develops his ideas of reverence, of service, of beauty, of godliness.

Most of us are ordinary people. No marked gifts distinguish us from the great group of people with whom we work and play. But there is always something that we can enjoy more than anything else, something that brings the light of joy and interest in our eyes, quickens our movements, illuminates our spirit. Well, it is for the ordinary person that I crave a training for leisure, for culture, for creative expression. The genius has the power to lift himself above the routine of daily living. We don't have to worry about his leisure time. Nature takes care of that. But the ordinary person must be trained in school so that he develops a hobby, an avocation, something he can turn to in his leisure time. It is the ordinary person who is going to have time for doing the things he likes to do, and those things he should learn to do in school. The school must change its standards, its methods, its equipment, its atmosphere, if it is to be a place where he develops his gifts, enriches his life with beauty, lives joyously, richly, with deep satisfaction in every breath he draws. The school must teach children the profitable use of leisure. In idleness and vacancy lies danger. We cannot allow the schools to go on as they have been doing without running the danger of setting man adrift, a rudderless creature, bound to founder in a sea of plenty.

"A sense of beauty is as essential to good citizenship as a sense of morality. The average person is continually confronted with the problem of creating an environment conducive to esthetic, economic, and emotional satisfaction. Man is essentially a spiritual being, revealing strong impulses to escape from the tyranny of eating and sleeping, and the monotony produced by a machine age. Modern methods of mass production and labor-saving machinery give to the average working man precious leisure hours that must be put to profitable, wholesome use or else prove burdensome to him. What to do with leisure time becomes a problem that education must help solve. . . . Elihu Root has said: 'The greatest happiness in life comes from things not material. It comes from the elevation of character, from the love of beauty gratified, from the many influences that enoble mankind. I think that we have no higher duty than to promote the opening to Americans of every opportunity to secure these means of happiness.'" —From *A Program of Art Education*, by Joseph Wiseltier, in *The Journal of the N. E. A.*, February, 1933.

Memorials Useful and Ornamental



Music court in the Francis William Bird Park—a memorial park at East Walpole, Massachusetts.

By WALTER J. CARTIER

Superintendent, Park and Recreation Commission
Charlotte, North Carolina

ALMOST from the beginning of time man has had the urge to establish memorials which he has expressed in every conceivable form ranging from a rough boulder set in the ground with a few crude words scratched upon its surface, to elaborate and costly monuments carved of solid rock in the side of a mountain and large enough to be seen for miles.

Memorials, like other things, have their styles and periods. Each decade is marked with some special style or whim, and as each succeeding generation leaves its monuments of varied type, we see the ever-growing tendency to try to surpass all others in elaborateness or style.

Of recent years there has developed a tendency toward memorials having a living value, which are useful and will serve to make this world

a better place in which to live. This idea has been expressed in memorial foundations, the income from which is expended on some particular project having to do with the welfare of people. We now find foundations for almost every conceivable cause, and this type of memorial is indeed a valuable service.

Parks As Memorials

During the past twenty-five years thousands of acres of park lands have been given to cities all over this country as memorials of various and sundry nature. Some have been simply large areas of standing timber and rolling land, to be left in as nearly natural a state as possible. This is known as the woodland park. We find, too, the very formal park development. The property, and even the cost of developing, often is donated in order to construct a memorial suitable to the donor.

Regardless of type or size, such memorials go down through the years gathering value and importance with age and increasing use. Thousands of people throng these memorial parks every year enjoying the shade of their trees, the coolness of their running waters, and the opportunity to play in God's out-of-doors. Surely it does not require any great imagination to picture the enduring values of such a memorial.

Athletic Fields

One of the newest developments is the donation of land, necessary buildings and construction of facilities for athletic fields. There have been several notable examples of this form of memorial. In one instance, not only was the land given the city, but the entire cost of development was borne by the donor and a trust fund set aside for the perpetual maintenance of the plant without cost to the city. This solves the problem of maintaining such a splendid facility, the cost of which might embarrass a municipal commission, especially if it were operating on small funds. However, very few municipalities has so many parks or athletic fields that they would not be glad to accept gifts of developed land, if the only expense were that of maintenance.

Memorial Playgrounds

The gleeful shouts and running feet of happy, care-free youngsters are guaranteed to bring satisfaction to anyone considering the establishment of a memorial which will live for all time in the lives of boys, girls and adults. It has been truly said, "The gift of land is the gift eternal." Certainly the gift of a playground would be the type of memorial destined to bring pleasure into the lives of thousands, and something which would never be forgotten or done away with.

Numerous men and women, in selecting suitable memorials for their children, have found in the playground a means of memorializing a loved one in something more intimate, more lasting than bronze or stone, because the playground is a constructive force dealing in human values—a builder of happiness.

Wading and Swimming Pools

In a western city, not long ago, a small curly-

headed girl was killed while crossing the street. Her parents were grief-stricken. After the shock abated, they began to cast around for a suitable memorial. A visit to the neighborhood playground made them realize the value of play in the safety and happiness of children, and they decided to give a memorial wading pool. This pool was designed by an eminent architect in collaboration with the playground executive. So genuine and enthusiastic was the response to the opening of this splendid memorial that the parents, happy in the joy they had brought, decided to build a second pool in a different section of the city.

In Charlotte we have a beautiful memorial pool known as the Arhelger Memorial Pool, dedicated to a young woman who lost her life in saving a child. This memorial was built through popular subscription, and since its opening has been extremely popular. (See photograph, page 554.)

The imperative need of adequate swimming facilities in the modern city has been answered in a number of localities in the gift of splendid memorial swimming pools. In some instances municipalities have furnished the money and the pools are memorials to soldier dead. In others, individuals have furnished the necessary funds for building and beautifying pools which are living and vital memorials to the loved ones they commemorate.

Another very attractive type of memorial is the memorial garden. These gardens are being developed in a number of ways. Some are very formal; others are simple, old-fashioned gardens with a wealth of flowering plants, shrubs and trees, with winding walks and opportunities for restful enjoyment in the out-of-doors.

Without depreciating the aesthetic value of our splendid bronzes, sculptured stone and inspiring shafts of marble and granite, is it not wise and reasonable for us to give more serious thought, in the provision of memorials, to making them useful as well as ornamental?

"We have made locomotives, automobiles, bridges and skyscrapers, and sometimes have stumbled upon beauty. Is there any reason why we should not now go deliberately forth to seek it? And need we be ashamed to seek it in our own way and our own place, not alone in quietness but amidst sweat and dust, fire and molten metal?"—R. L. Duffus in *The American Magazine of Art*, January, 1933.

Anyone wishing definite information on areas given for recreation purposes is invited to send to the National Recreation Association for the free pamphlet entitled "Donated Parks and Play Areas."



Courtesy German Tourist Information Office, New York

Homburg, Germany, has joined New York, Cincinnati, and other large cities in setting aside streets for play.

Play Streets

LAST SPRING at a meeting held in the office of Police Commissioner Edward T. Mulrooney, the Committee to Open Recreation Centers of the Community Councils of New York recommended that for play demonstration purposes one hundred play streets be set aside. With the aid of Mr. Barron Collier, who contributed \$1,000, it was possible to undertake the program.

The directors, in selecting the play streets, were careful to choose streets in neighborhoods where recreational facilities were at a minimum. In some instances streets were chosen which were dead end streets or free from heavy traffic. Forty-eight play streets were established in congested areas in the Boroughs of the Bronx and Manhattan. Seven streets were run for a period of from one to three weeks and forced to close for various reasons.

Leadership was discovered among the candy merchants, grocery clerks, barbers, sextons, janitors and other volunteers who took care of equipment on

their respective streets. These men, who were as eager as the children to have the play equipment installed, proved to be capable adult leaders. Not only did they see that the equipment was taken care of but they also settled disputes, suggested new games and took a personal interest in what was going on. With the assistance of three or four older boys who acted as block captains, these adult leaders helped carry on very successfully the block activities.

The Emergency Work Bureau assigned four men to supervise activities, each man being assigned a certain number of streets where he was in general charge of the activities, took care of the equipment and organized tournaments.

Boys and girls between the ages of six and sixteen years of age took part in the activities and many areas were represented. The lower East Side and Harlem streets attracted the greatest number of children,

(Continued on page 589)

Play streets came into being in Germany when in three different sections of Hamburg entire streets, or parts of them, were closed to traffic. The city authorities have given assurance that "Spielstrassen" are purely emergency measures. As soon as funds are available real playgrounds will be created in all parts of the city.

They Voted "Yes" for Recreation

How three cities carried on successful referendum campaigns

IT WAS NOT by accident that the citizens of Battle Creek, Michigan, Canton, Ohio, and Parkersburg, West Virginia, went to the polls last November and voted substantial approval of their tax supported recreation programs. Accidents like that do not happen in the face of one of the most powerful campaigns for tax reduction that American communities have known.

It was skillful and intensive campaigning based on a foundation of successful recreation service that led to the successful vote. William G. Robinson, district representative of the National Recreation Association, who was called in to help plan the campaigns and give advice as they progressed, states, "In all three cases is the background of a number of years of well-planned, varied, and far reaching programs. The voters were convinced by accomplishments and not by promises."

Echo Lake Camp
Looking towards Lake Tahoe
Elevation 7600 Ft

James Kenney
Community House

Play Festival
Live Oak Park

Berkeley's Camps
offer delightful
Vacations
at Low Cost

On with the Dance

Bicycle Day is Popular with
Boys and Girls

Prize Winning Vehicles

Courtesy Berkeley, California, Recreation Department

When cities vote "Yes" for recreation they make possible activities such as these.

A common element in the strategy of these campaigns was house to house and person to person canvassing for votes. General publicity was utilized, of course, but that was not considered sufficient. Another common factor was the enlistment of participants in the program as election workers. And how they did work!



Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Commission

The campaign in Canton, largest of the three cities, was so thorough, says Mr. C.

W. Schnake, director of the Department of Recreation, that by November 8th practically every voter had in one way or another been approached three times.

In 1931 the city had completed a five-year period of recreation financed by a one-tenth of a mill tax levy. That year the attempt to renew the levy by referendum vote failed by eighteen hundred votes. However, a minimum program was carried on by the department, using a surplus that had been accumulated from revenue during the previous five years. Early in 1932, it was decided to present the levy to the voters again, raising it to two-tenths of a mill because of the depreciation in property appraisals and a decrease in city revenues due to tax delinquencies.

Canton's Campaign Begins

Instead of the very large citizens' committee set up in 1931, only a small group consisting of the recreation board of five members, the mayor of the city, and the clerk of the council, engineered the 1932 campaign. In its work this committee sent out very few letters, depending instead on personal interviews.

A view of Excelsior Playground, San Francisco twenty-five years ago, when recreation development started.

The campaign commenced quietly during the summer of 1932. At all athletic and other events cards

were passed around among the spectators and participants stating that these activities were made possible by the city's department of recreation. The cards made no reference to a tax levy. Throughout the year all the activities of the department were given newspaper publicity.

On the understanding that it was probably necessary to petition the board of education to vote a resolution passing the question of recreation to the board of elections, petitions were circulated among voters early in September. After five hundred signatures had been secured, the city solicitor made a ruling that the petition was not necessary. Realizing, however, that the circulation of the petition and the securing of signatures were good advertising, the signature getting was allowed to continue until four thousand had been obtained.

Because of the general campaign for tax reduction going on everywhere it was later decided to give special publicity to the tax feature. The theory of this was that if the people had become familiar over a period of a month with the prospect of a tax levy they would not suddenly be upset about it at the polls. Large signs were

painted on playground basketball backstops and elsewhere reading, "Vote for the Recreation Tax Levy." Cards were also placed in stores and read, "For Health and Safety—Vote for Recreation Tax Levy," "Give the Kids a Break—Vote for Recreation Tax Levy," "Keep the Playgrounds and Swimming Pools Open—Vote for Recreation Tax Levy." Signs were also placed in buses. The large signs were put up approximately a month before the election; cards, three weeks; and bus signs, one week.

Cooperation of Church Organizations

The intensive phase of a campaign began three weeks before election with the calling together of four ministers, two priests and a rabbi for discussion of the recreation levy as a moral and religious issue. The clergymen accepted the campaign as such and agreed as a committee to approach the other churches and present the levy as a non-political measure to their congregations on the last two Sundays before election.

A resolution was written and signed by the officers of the Men's Federated Bible Classes, a central organization covering all the Protestant faiths in the city, calling for a favorable vote on the tax levy. This was read before all Bible classes in the city, women's as well as

Excelsior Playground today under the new charter voted by the people increasing the tax levy for recreation

men's, on the last two Sundays before November 8. A complete sample ballot, the reference to the recreation measure marked with red crayon, was printed to the number of 100,000 and distributed to the churches and Sunday schools.

Arrangement of this remarkable cooperation from churches and Sunday schools was made through the president of the Federated Bible Classes, who suggested the key men in each church.

Work With Other Organizations

Small meetings were held with those who took part in the activities of the department, including members of committees, backers, players, coaches, and other participants. It was explained to them that the city was in no condition to carry on recreation except through this special levy. The schools were not in a financial position to do the work. Recreation would be lost if they did not go out and push the measure.

In one way or another the measure was brought to the attention of bridge clubs, participants at society functions, and members of numerous organized groups. This got it talked about and discussed even more than the presidential candidates, people said.

A chairman of recreation was appointed for the city-wide Par-



Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Commission

ent-Teachers Council and in turn a chairman for each association. The levy was presented to every association not by outstanding men of the city, but by influential men from each neighborhood. A committee was then organized in each association, consisting of not less than three members, which engaged in block to block canvassing in favor of the measure.

During the summer of 1932 the Italians, Slovaks, Hungarians, Poles, and Negroes formed an organization for consideration of and voting on political measures. Out of the membership of the city blocks by which these groups were organized, a central committee of sixteen men was eventually formed. At the last pre-election meeting of this group, the recreation issue was considered and it was voted fifteen to one to support it. This brought a practically one hundred per cent favorable vote from the foreign groups of the city.

Since the November election was to be on national and state issues primarily, there were no local issues to confuse voters and to divert their attention from the recreation question. The mayor, various councilmen and other political leaders took a favorable position on the tax levy. It was brought up at practically all political rallies, both Republican and Democratic as a non-political issue. All ward captains and workers having sample ballots, the levy was stressed as both a Republican and Democratic measure.

The cooperation of the superintendent of schools having been sought, he personally talked to all principals and they in turn presented the question to all their teachers. A sample ballot was taken home by every school child Monday noon before election. Each public school teacher and each Sister in the parochial schools explained to the pupils that the tax levy was one question that was of vital importance to the city and to them personally, stating that the schools and the parishes were behind the movement and would appreciate their support.

The Arguments Used

Voters were told that paying a small tax for recreation was cheaper than paying the excessive costs of juvenile delinquency or suffering the depreciation of public and private property that threatened if the levy failed to pass. The moral, spiritual, and recreative benefits of a city-wide program "at a time of such dire need" were stressed as extremely important for the children, young people, and adults of the city. It was pointed out that the playgrounds, swimming pools,

and other facilities which had been closed for lack of funds would be reopened and would teem with activity. *The Canton Economist*, the spokesman for Canton's business institutions, declared editorially that defeat of the measure would be false economy.

As a final climax of the campaign a truck was driven through the business section of the city from 3 P. M. to 6 P. M. the day before election, bearing signs and a group of forty-five children. Two signs read, "Vote for the Recreation Tax Levy." Streamers on either side of the truck read respectively, "Please Give Us Back Our Playgrounds," and "Please Keep Our Swimming Pools Open." The children blew horns, rang bells, and sang a parody on the "Mississippi Levee" to the effect of "vote for the recreation levy." The truck had police escort.

Individual to individual contact was the heart of this campaign. The voter was approached through some political organization, or particular friend, through the block to block work of the Parent-Teachers Associations, and through the children from every school on the Monday before election. One worker personally made three hundred calls. He was unemployed and thought that this was as good a use as any he could put his time to.

Other forms of publicity were not neglected. They included outdoor advertising and printed matter, paid for by donations, newspaper stories, speeches, and a very cleverly arranged radio program in which the mayor of the city interviewed individuals representative of the participants in the various activities of the department, bringing out how much the activities were valued and what a loss it would be if they could not be continued.

Precinct Organization in Parkersburg

The campaign in Parkersburg, while quiet, was also very thorough. As in Canton, there was an intensive organization of the vote by precincts. Each precinct committee was headed by an individual appointed for his or her interest in recreation. Such individuals included backers and managers of athletic teams, personal friends of members of the recreation board and executive, individuals in key positions in industrial plants and shops, key leaders in teachers' associations, members of the Lion's Club, employees of the recreation board, the Girl Scout executive, and participants in recreation activities.

(Continued on page 589)

A Bag O'Tricks Party

By MARY J. BREEN

National Recreation Association



Little Mr. Bag O'Tricks
Comes to you to say
You're invited to a party
On All Fools' Day.

Little Mr. Bag O'Tricks'
Pack is rather light
So won't you bring along a trick
To cheer the little wight?

It needn't be expensive
It may be old or new
In fact, if you'll perform it
Just the name will do.

PRACTICAL jokes and tricks are the special privilege of April 1st socials. There will be room for plenty in this Bag O'Tricks Party. If you like rhymes and are enterprising enough to make cut-out invitations, send out the suggested message with little Mr. Bag O'Tricks as pictured here.

The Invitation

Use the illustration as a pattern for Mr. Bag O'Tricks. Cut the figure out of tan card board. Color with red the coat, shoes, pack, and trimmings on the coat and trousers. Write the invitation in colored ink or crayon on thin white paper. Fold this several times and put it in the slit in the bag as shown in the picture.

If your tastes are simpler, write your invitation on plain white note paper or a double correspondence card. On the outside, in one corner, place a jester cut-out, and in the middle write "April Fool." On the inside write "But don't be fooled by staying away from my Bag O'Tricks Party on April 1st. Sharpen your wits and be ready with some trick or practical joke. You will need it in self-defense."

The place

The time

The party can be conducted without the presence of little Mr. Bag O'Tricks, but he will add fun and color. If you do have him as master of ceremonies your guests will be expecting a Peter-Panish person resembling the figure on your invitation. But since it is April 1st and everything is topsy-turvy, your Mr. Bag O'Tricks may be a

tall robust person, or even a shriveled old man with whiskers. Whichever he is, he should be merry and have a good sense of humor. One of those "dyed-in-the-wool" practical jokers who is indispensable but slightly bothersome on other social occasions would be in his element in such a role. He should wear a bright colored cap and sash and "floppy" boots. Realistic ones can be made of oil cloth or colored canvas.

As each guest arrives, Mr. Bag O'Tricks greets him with some foolish saying and hands him a card, on one side of which is written in a spiral the following message: "The message on this card is very important, so read it carefully. It's April first! Beware of practical jokes. Now look at your hands." The person has to turn the card around and around to read what the card says. The under side is covered with lamp black. This is a good enough opening for any party!

Before admitting the guests Mr. Bag O'Tricks checks up on each one to be sure he is ready with a trick. Those who are not prepared are made to perform a stunt later in the evening. If a trick or stunt can be put on by a few people to entertain the crowd, Mr. Bag O'Tricks asks the person responsible for it to wait until he gives him the signal before performing it. The old stunt, "Playing Fools for the Crowd" and "I Have Caught a Line of Suckers," both of which are described later, are much more effective if there is a good audience and a great deal of hullabaloo before the event.

As a sign that he approves the guests Mr. Bag O'Tricks hands each person a paper bag to which is tied a tag on which is written the person's name and these words, "This is your bag o'tricks. Solve the puzzle." The bag contains a jig-saw puzzle which each person must put together before he is allowed to join the initiates who have preceded him. The jig-saw puzzles are made by pasting comic valentines on a piece of cardboard. This is cut up into pieces of different shapes and sizes. Each valentine should be selected so that it fits the person for whom it is intended.

Decorations should be as foolish as possible. Display signs may be used wishing the guest a "Merry April Fool Day" or "A Snappy Easter." Misguided proverbs such as the following will add to the "seriousness" of the occasion. "He laughs best who gathers no moss." "There is no fool like penny-wise." "A rolling stone and his money are soon parted." Rebecca's motto, "When joy and duty clash, let duty go to smash," is always welcomed at an April Fool party.

In one corner of the room arrange a fake exhibit* using the following:

"Fifty Views of Washington"—fifty two-cent stamps.

"Fifty Views of the Panama Canal"—fifty Panama stamps.

"Fifty Points in Colorado"—a sketch of Colorado with fifty dots.

"Among the Rockies"—several rocking chairs (doll furniture and others).

Place a large letter "C" on each end of a strip of cardboard which must stand north and south. The letter at the north end is "The North Sea" and "Below the North Sea" is the lower letter.

General Cobb and his Colonels—a cob of corn.

The Bust of a Commentator—a potato.

The American Elevator—a yeast cake.

The Rose of Castile—Castile soap in rows.

A Swimming Match—a match in a glass of water.

The Peacemakers—a pair of scissors.

Study in Black and White—a piece of chalk and coal.

A Diamond Pin—a dime and pin.

A Pair of Slippers—banana peels.

Extracts from Many Pens—a penwiper.

The Unopened Letter—the letter "O."

Tricks of All Kinds

Have a lot of innocent looking tricks to catch the unwary and others to catch even the wariest. The first nine tricks of the following list can be made very easily. The others can be purchased at novelty stores. If your local store does not carry them, write for a catalogue of the Ross Souvenir Company, "the Shop Full of Foolishness," 2 West 33rd Street, New York City.

(1) **A Depression Spoon.** Can be made by filing off the bowl of a five- and ten-cent store spoon. It should be placed in a dish of candy or peanuts.

(2) **Paper Roaches.** Cut these out of black stiff paper, make the six legs by pasting on the under side of the roach strips of elastic cut from narrow elastic bands. The roaches are very effective if put near the refreshments or dropped in a glass of water.

(3) **The Endless Thread.** This is best for men or for women if they are wearing coat suits. A spool of thread is placed in the upper coat pocket. The loose end of the thread is put through a needle, which is brought out through the pocket to the under side of the coat and out again on the lapel of the coat. The needle is then taken off and one inch of white thread is left hanging on the coat. The tidy guest who tries to take off the innocent thread will pick out many yards before he sees the joke.

(4) **The Moving Piece of Cheese.** Tie a long blond hair or a piece of light colored silk thread around a piece of cheese. Hold the one end in your hand and draw the cheese across the table at the appropriate moment.

(5) **The Jumping Candy.** Cut off a two inch piece of the spring from the roller of a window shade. Stretch it until it measures about 12 inches. Cover this with green paper cambric. Squeeze it into a candy or nut jar or can about four inches high. The can should be small enough in diameter so that the "snake" will spring when the can is opened. The jar or can should bear the

* From *The Books of Games and Parties* by Theresa H. Wolcott.

label of some good brand of candy or nuts so that the guests will not be able to resist opening the can. They will find a very tasty tidbit good for many shrieks during the evening!

NOTE: Riddles No. 4 and No. 5 are taken from *Sam Loyd and His Puzzles*, published by Barse & Co.

(6) **Fragrant Flowers.** Sprinkle snuff or pepper on flowers which are really fragrant and which the guests won't be able to resist smelling.

(7) **The Lost Handkerchief.** is sewed fast to a divan or chair.

(8) **The Lost Nickel.** Glue a tack to a nickel. Place it on the floor, head up, and step on it. Even the most persistent Scotchman won't be able to pick it up!

(9) **April Fool Signs.** Pin on unsuspecting guests such signs as "Poke me gently," "Tell me my name," and the like.

(10) **A Bending Soup Spoon,** which has a joint in the middle and bends when it is picked up.

(11) **A Wobbly Cigarette Box.** This box resembles a well known brand of cigarettes. A hidden mechanism makes it vibrate when it is picked up.

(12) **A Left-handed Cork Screw.** This has a left-handed thread and it usually takes the victim several minutes to "wake up."

(13) **For the Guest Room.** Crying towels, each printed with funny inscriptions, soap which gives the hands a greenish color, and a funny mirror which distorts the appearance of anyone who looks into it, are indispensable for the guest room at an April Fool party.

(14) **A Diamond Ring.** A white stone ring with a hollow stem. Water is ejected from a rubber bulb hidden in the hand.

(15) **Joy Buzzer.** A handshaking contrivance which is worn like a ring. The persons shaking hands receive a shock.

(16) **Joker's Snow-flakes.** A small pellet placed upon a cigar or in a pipe will fill the room with an imitation snowstorm.

(17) **Jumping Frog.** A small metal frog which jumps several feet into the air and can be timed to jump at different intervals.

(18) **Musical Seat.** A

small bellows placed on a chair or under a cushion squeaks when anyone sits on it.

(19) **A Shooting Match Box.** A metal match box made for paper matches which shoots when it is opened.

(20) **A Surprise Squirter.** A metal monkey which is worn as a lapel button. Water is squirted through it from a ball in the pocket.

(21) **Palpitator Plate Lifter.** Makes plates and dishes dance. This is a small bulb with a long rubber tube attached to a larger bulb. The larger one is held in the person's hand and when it is squeezed, the bulb under the plate puffs out and lifts up the plate.

Games and Stunts

Games and stunts with humorous twists or those in which a few entertain the group are especially appropriate for April Fool parties.

The Vicious Donkey. A picture of a donkey with a huge ear is drawn in charcoal on a large piece of white paper. About ten of the guests are asked to go into another room and brought back one at a time. As each one is brought in he is shown the picture of the donkey and told that after he is blindfolded he is to go up and poke his finger in the donkey's ear. He is then blindfolded, led up to the donkey and told to go ahead and poke. Just as he is about to do so, one of the leader's "assistants" who has been casually standing near the donkey, kneels down, and as the exploring forefinger is about to touch the picture, he gives it a healthy bite. It never takes very long for the blindfold to come off! The healthy bite is a nip by the teeth of some toy animal or a large paper clip.

April Fool Spelling Bee. Contestants are lined up and when everyone is ready the leader says, "April Fool! You're not going to spell. I am. As I spell, you pronounce the words." The players will be surprised when the leader spells such words as "Antipode, Antipodes, acclimate, decadent." There are lists of words for pronouncing contests in the book, "Are You a Genius?" by Robert A. Streeter and Robert G. Hohn, published by F. A. Stokes Company, 443 Fourth Avenue, New York City. Price \$1.00.

April Fool's Day, or All Fools' Day, is a day dear to children, and to grown-ups as well, by reason of the sanction that it gives to all sorts of mischievous and harmless pranks. Its origin, though unknown, is old, Nina B. Lemkin points out in "Good Times for All Times," as Poor Robin's Almanac, published in 1760, contains a rhyme regarding it. In English speaking countries the victim of a joke is called an *April Fool*; in Scotland he is a *gowk*, and in France a *fisb*.

April Fool Jump. Three or four stout men are chosen—with friendly determination on the part of the leader—for the victims in this race. A washline is stretched across the room, some two feet off the floor. In order to get an idea of its height these men are asked to try jumping across it in turn, as they are to jump it blindfolded in a few minutes. After they have all jumped it with their eyes open they are blindfolded at the same time, and one at a time are faced in the right direction and told to jump the rope blindfolded. The picture of stout men making frantic attempts to jump over an imaginary rope is most ludicrous.

Blind Boxing. Two blindfolded contestants put on the boxing gloves. A rope is tied around each fighter's waist so that they can be guided and pulled away from each other at will. After their eyes have been covered, the referee puts on a pair of gloves without the boxers' knowledge, and clowns with them. This is very successful if the boxing is well done.

Playing Fools for the Crowd. The people who did not come prepared to play a trick on the other guests are asked to leave the room. The stunt is explained to the rest of the group. When the players leave the room they are told that they are to pantomime playing in an orchestra. They are to play their instruments when the leader gives the signal, and the crowd is to guess what instruments they are playing and what tune they are playing. When they start playing on their imaginary instruments, individuals in the audience venture guesses as to the instruments which are being pantomimed. The leader then turns around to the audience presumably to ask the name of the tune and says, "What are we playing?" and the audience in a chorus says, "Fools for the crowd!"

Marshmallow Eating Contest. Three or more pairs of players (men preferably) are asked to enter a marshmallow eating contest. The players line up on opposite sides of a table. A dish of marshmallows is placed between each pair of players. The players are instructed to feed their partners the marshmallows in the dish. Each pair of players is competing with all the other pairs. To play the game, however, all the contestants must be blindfolded. When the blindfolds are put on, the dishes of marshmallows are replaced by dishes of marshmallows covered with lampblack. The players deserve all the marshmallows they can eat!

Obstacle Race. Select several contestants for this race. Place a number of obstacles in the race course—buckets, books, cups, tumblers, etc. Let the contestants try the course once. Then blindfold them, have some one noiselessly remove all the obstacles, and start the race. If this is done cleverly enough, the contestants will do some ridiculous high-stepping to avoid knocking over or touching any of the obstacles, since one of the rules laid down was that each obstacle touched counts one demerit against the racer. The contestants must walk and not run.

"I Have Caught a Line of Suckers." If your guests are still trusting enough when you introduce this game, ask several of them to come up and take hold of a string which you and an accomplice are holding. Then start a telephone conversation with your accomplice on the other end. You tell him about a fishing trip you have been on and when he asks what you caught, you reply, "A line of suckers."

And Riddles, Too

Humorous riddles are good for April Fool parties. If the group is large, form teams and score one point for a team each time one of its members guesses the correct answer. In selecting riddles be sure that they are not too difficult. Some riddles can't be solved for weeks and even the most amiable person would lose his good nature if a party continued that long. Here are some good ones:

(1) A boy was sent to a spring with a five and three quart measure to procure exactly four quarts of water. How did he measure it?

(2) A gentleman was shown the picture of an inmate of a prison and asked by the warden whether he was related to the culprit. He replied, "Brothers and sisters have I none, but this man's father is my father's son." What relation was the gentleman to the prisoner?

(3) A snail climbs up a wall twenty feet in height; during the day it climbs five feet but slips back four feet each night. How many days will it take to reach the top?

(4) Twice four and twenty black birds are sitting in the rain, one shot killed a seventh, how many did remain?

(5) Three stupid boys who were so dumb they could not do a simple sum were tagged with numbers 3, 1, 6 and were told those numbers they could mix to find, by any changes tried, a sum of which seven would divide. One of the boys proved to be not such a dunce after all for in a very clever way he arranged the three figures in to a number divisible by seven. How did he do it?

(6) Two Indians were sitting on a curb a big Indian and a little Indian. The little Indian was the big In-

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Lo - the Poor Judge!

By MABEL FOOTE HOBBS

Community Drama Service
National Recreation Association

The judge in a drama tournament must very often wish he had the wisdom of a Solomon!

If you are thinking of conducting a drama tournament this year in your club, community or county, it might be well to consider the judges' powers of endurance along with their other qualifications! If you have ever been in the position of serving as a tournament judge, this statement needs no explanation. For at times there is likely to be no more thankless task in the world.

Someone calls you on the 'phone, or perhaps writes you a flattering letter, asking you to serve as a judge. You ruefully weigh the long, arduous evening hours against the desire to be helpful and decide that you really ought to accept. You break engagements for the week, if you are to be a preliminary judge, and faithfully appear at each performance. With the rules before you, you mull over every point and strain your critical powers to the utmost to give each cast what it

deserves. Or, if you are to judge the finals, you take your seat, conscious of the fact that a great responsibility has been thrust upon you. You sharpen your wits and make an earnest effort not to let a thing get by, good or bad, without taking it carefully into consideration. The reports are finally handed in or you may meet with the other judges for a few minutes of grave discussion and sober comparison of figures before giving the decision to the master of ceremonies who is to make the announcement to the restless audience.

You heave a sigh of relief. Well, it was worth it to have done your part! You enjoy a modest glow of satisfaction and wait for someone to shake your hand gratefully. That is, you do if you have never before helped judge a drama tournament! A seasoned judge knows that now the time has come to turn up his coat collar and

A scene from the "Florist Shop," one of the plays used in a drama tournament in Westchester County.



sneak out the nearest fire exit before the "brickbats" begin to fly! Nobody loves a tournament judge. How can one, when the judges completely overlook the play in which poor, dear Mary Agnes rose from an attack of gripe to appear? Of course she didn't give her best performance but—think of it—she actually had a fever!

Or perhaps it is a boys' club tournament. How could the heartless judges ignore the group who put on the scene from "Hamlet"? Didn't those tired mothers trudge to the club house night after night to sew costumes? The club leader is heartbroken because the boys and girls who gave up their opportunities to swim or dance to rehearse a scene from "Cyrano," received no recognition. The judges did not and should not know about these things, interesting as they are. The judges are concerned solely with what occurs on the stage after the curtain is up and the play goes on. Their interest is exclusively centered on audibility, diction, teamwork and similar points.

Some Remedies

It would be most unfortunate if tournaments had to be abandoned because of the ill-will they sometimes engender. They have so many advantages that it seems as though some remedies could be found for their unpleasant features. The real difficulty seems to lie in a lack of understanding. The persons directly connected with the individual productions are apt to consider it from the emotional side. Many things which have nothing to do with the final production of the play creep into their evaluation of it. Personal sacrifices, the impoverished home of some child who does a lovely bit of acting—all these things loom large to the club and drama directors who are close to the children and often obscure their perspective of the tournament as a whole. But the judging, on the other hand, must be more or less mechani-



Lady Gregory's play *The Full Moon* has been very successfully used in drama tournaments.

cal. The only way that it is possible to conduct a tournament is through cold reasoning. Let anyone who doubts this, attempt to direct one on an emotional basis, taking into consideration all the touching facts that the drama directors can think up!

In reviewing some of the tournament ills that have come to our attention, two points stand out as being particularly troublesome. They are lack of confidence in the judges' ability and misunderstanding concerning the rules. It is of the utmost importance that the judges be well qualified for

their work and that their experience is such that their opinion will go unchallenged by the layman. A suburban group whose tournaments had been outstanding events in the amateur world for years, was obliged to give up the tournament recently because the groups participating refused to complete before the judges whom the committee had been able to supply. It is becoming more and more difficult to secure the services of judges gratis and the time is not far distant when judging will have to be put on a financial rather than a complimentary basis. The fee paid the judges for their time and expert work may be looked upon in the same light as the remuneration which the author receives in royalty.

The solution to most tournament problems will undoubtedly be arrived at through perfect understanding of the rules by the players, club directors, drama directors, and judges. It is impossible for any committee to arrange a set of rules which will apply to all tournaments. The rules employed in the National Little Theatre Tournaments conducted in New York by Walter Hartwig could not be used in a rural tournament. But in general, the considerations are similar. The most satisfying rules can be obtained by having the committee members acquaint themselves with the rules used by other groups and take what seems to apply to their own case.

The following suggestions were selected from ten different set ups, ranging from the most experienced to the simplest tournaments.

Suggested Tournament Rules

I. The contest is open to all non-professional dramatic groups in No professional actors shall be employed in the presentation. A professional director does not come within the restrictions mentioned, as long as he does not act a part in the tournament.

II. Not more than groups may compete. Registration of intention to enter the contest must be made by and registrations are accepted in order of their receipt. Name of play and cast need not be announced at that time.

NOTE: Mr. Carl Glick, well-known playwright, who was one of the first to introduce the state tournament, offers the following suggestion. An invitation to participate, with the rules attached, is sent by the tournament committee to each eligible group by registered mail, receipt card requested. The reply of acceptance, which the committee asks the groups to send by registered mail, indicates that the entrants are willing to abide by the rules. This method eliminates any possible misunderstanding through lost mail.

III. Name and synopsis of play must be in the hands of the committee by No two groups shall give the same play. The first group to submit the play shall be given the preference. No player may act in more than one play.

IV. An entrance fee of will be charged each contesting group, payment to be made not later than Each competing group will receive gratis tickets. These may be disposed of for apiece, thus covering the cost of entrance fee and perhaps the royalty for the play. There will be no expense to the contestants for rental of the theatre.

NOTE: The rental and general expenses govern the amount of the entrance fee.

V. Entries are limited to strictly one-act plays with casts of at least four people. Musical and dancing specialties are barred. Only one set is allowed. The curtain may be dropped to denote passing of time. Maximum playing time shall be forty minutes.

NOTE: The time limit varies from thirty to forty-five minutes, but the majority of rules place a forty minute limit. The New Haven Drama Tournament bars original plays, one act from a long play, and plays that have been presented in the tournament during the past four years.

V. Each contesting group must be responsible for the royalty on its own play, and the receipt

for payment to the play agents must be presented to the committee twenty-four hours before the performance. Failure to comply with this rule will be considered an automatic withdrawal from the contest, with forfeiture of the entrance fee.

NOTE: This rule, which is in general use, is taken from the Pittsburgh Drama League set up.

VII. Each group will be allowed one hour during the afternoon of the day of their performance for rehearsal, making it possible for the actors to gauge their voices and become familiar with the stage. Full dress rehearsal is not possible at this time.

VIII. All scenery, properties and effects of each group must be at the theatre on the morning of the day it is to play. These must remain in charge of the tournament committee until a decision has been reached by the judges as to the prize plays that are to be presented at the final performances. Groups must remove properties as soon as they are eliminated from the contest. Transportation to and from the theatre is at the expense of each group which is also responsible for the care of costumes and properties.

IX. All plays will use the same drapes as a background.

NOTE: Most tournament committees are desirous of getting away from all kinds and types of stage scenery and the expense of elaborate settings. This rule is especially valuable when groups of different financial standing are competing.

X. No persons are permitted backstage except those connected with the play being presented at the time.

NOTE: Back stage space is always limited. Each group should have full use of the stage without any handicap during the presentation of their play. Groups will wait in their dressing rooms until the time of their appearance when they must be ready to take charge of the stage as soon as the previous play is over.

XI. The preliminary contests will be on the first nights, four plays given each night. The preliminary judges will select the four best performances and these four will be presented in the final contest, usually held the first night following the preliminaries. The committee will group all plays entered as seems best from the standpoint of artistically arranged programs.

XII. There will be two sets of judges—one for the preliminary contest and one for the final. These will be selected by the Drama Tournament Committee.

XIII. The cup will be awarded to the play judged best by the final judges. The cup is to be

held by the winning group for one year. It will again be competed for in the next tournament. The group winning it three times, not necessarily in successive tournaments, will become the permanent owners.

Rules for Judging

The basis for judging seems to represent the greatest difficulty in drama tournaments. Opinion varies so widely that no two tournament rules have identical distribution of points. The following rules, chosen for their excellence and for the variety which they demonstrate, may be helpful to committees in deciding what rules best govern their own conditions.

The National Little Theatre Tournament, held in New York, is judged according to the following standards:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Presentation, meaning interpretation or "how well the idea of the play is gotten over" | 50% |
| Acting | 25% |
| Setting | 15% |
| Selection of Play | 10% |

The Pittsburgh Drama League, entering into their ninth annual amateur players' contest, offers the following rules:

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Interpretation | 40% |
| Acting | 30% |
| Choice of play | 20% |
| Staging | 10% |

The Los Angeles County Drama Association Tournament of One-Act Plays is judged as follows:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Interpretation, including characterization and pantomime | 20% |
| Direction, including tempo | 30% |
| Presentation, including make-up, costuming and scenic effect | 20% |
| Diction, including voice | 30% |

At a recent conference of thirty drama directors among whom several had had tournament experience, the following rules were suggested:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Diction | 25% |
| (Play must be audible and understood) | |
| Teamwork | 10% |
| (Meaning give and take, ability to play together, and that no one person may feature himself at sacrifice of others.) | |
| Interpretation | 25% |
| (How well the director has presented the meaning of the play.) | |
| Acting | 25% |
| General effect | 15% |
| (Make-up, costuming, properties, scenery must be appropriate for play.) | |

The Dearborn, Michigan, Civic Institute of Drama uses the following more explicit and detailed type of score:

Presentation

1. Diction

- (a) Could the actor be heard with difficulty (5), clearly (10)?
- (b) Was the diction of the actors fair (5), good (10), excellent (15)?

Note: Diction to cover pronunciation, accurate dialect and fitting quality of voice.

2. Acting

- (a) Was the individual acting of the members of the cast fair (5), good (10), excellent (15)?
- (b) Was the acting of the group as a whole fair (5), good (10), excellent (15)?

3. Setting

- (a) Is the adaptation of the properties fair (5), good (10), excellent (15)?

Interpretation

1. Was the interpretation of the play as a whole fair (10), good (20), excellent (30)?

Note: Interpretation to be understood as the meaning of the play as brought out by the actors and the degree to which the audience realized it.

There is a difference in opinion concerning the method of presenting the judges' decision. In some cases the judges are required to sign their scorings and hand them to the chairman of the tournament committee. In other instances the judges meet for a short conference and discuss the matter before the final decision is made. These are questions which must be left to the tournament committee to decide. In case the judges use the formal method of turning in their reports, we strongly recommend that the chairman open the sealed envelope, in which the scores have been placed, in the presence of at least one judge. This formality protects the committee from any criticism. For, as we have said elsewhere in this article, tournaments are apt to breed a partisan spirit that is not above making itself felt in unpleasant ways.

A tournament that culminated in an unusually happy arrangement is described by Miss Dorothy C. Enderis, Director, Extension Department, Milwaukee Public Schools.

"We are topping off a most interesting dramatic contest tonight with a party at which the judges will discuss the various plays. The judges have picked from each cast the members who seem most promising and with these as a nucleus we are organizing an all-city dramatic group with which we can do experimental and intensive work. We are calling the same the 'Milwaukee

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Spiritual Fellowship With the Unknown Soldier

NOT BY NAME, rank, creed or class, do we know who he was in life. All that we know about the Unknown Soldier is that he was a member of the A. E. F., that he faced the issues of good citizenship on the battle front, and that he gave the last drop of devotion to the common cause. We pay homage at his shrine because he symbolizes all that we know and feel about faith, courage, devotion, patriotism and sacrifice in the interest of the common good. But what mockery it is to thus designate and pour out our praise and supplications at the shrine of the Unknown Soldier, if we fail in peace time to do substantially what he did in war time! The generals and other officers played their conspicuous and devoted parts in the World War, but in the last analysis the War was won by the allied forces because of the devotion to duty of the Unknown Soldier. It is just so in peace time. Our public officials may be ever so devoted and brilliant in their service to the common cause, but if the Unknown Citizen fails in spirit and practice to give of himself as did the Unknown Soldier, the social, political and economic battles of peace time will be lost to the forces that stand as the enemies of good government and the social health and security of the nation.



Courtesy Boy Scouts of America

In cities everywhere
we find them serving

By E. B. DEGROOT

Secretary
Boys Work Committee
International Rotary

Having observed, in many situations, the Civic Service work of Boy Scouts, I am prepared to say that we have in the ranks of Scouting a countless number of boys who do indeed carry on in the spirit of the Unknown Soldier, in

the interest of the common good of their communities and the nation. For the most part, Boy Scouts who do civic service work for their communities are unknown and unsung. They go to the front and stick to their posts until the day is won in all sorts of civic, social, educational, philanthropic and patriotic enterprises, in the interest of the common good. Thus they not only express good citizenship in the service they render, but they enter into spiritual fellowship with the Unknown Soldier. Here are four stories, told in brief, of actual happenings which illuminate the theme of this article.

Unsung Services

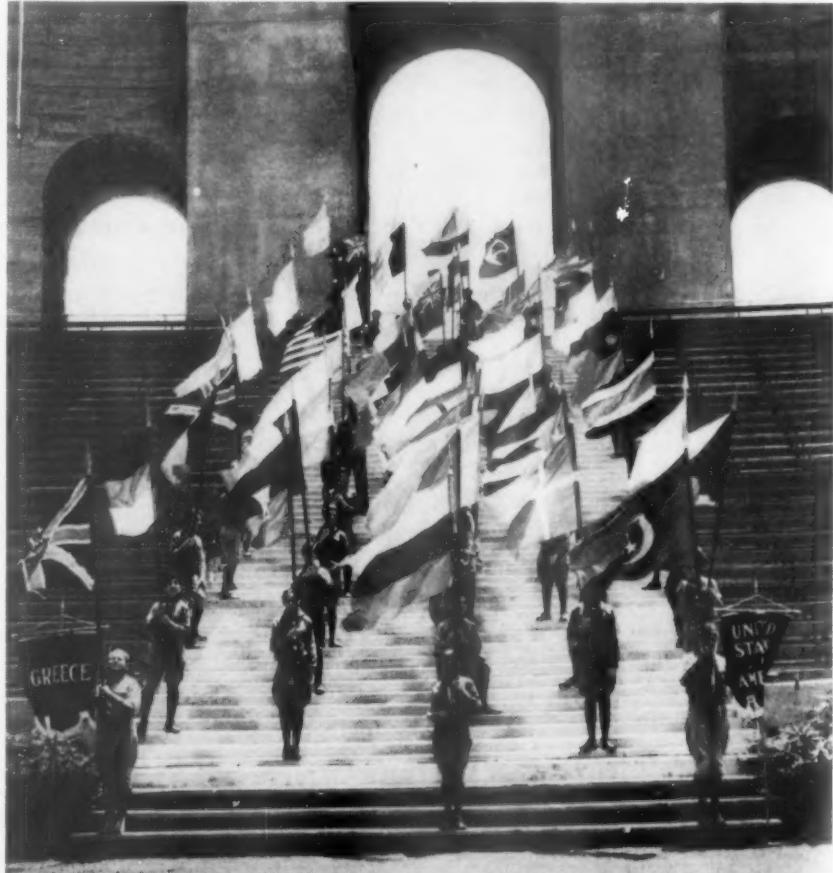
An international hero is on his way to town. The Mayor of the city and the Governor of the state announce a great public reception in his honor. At once the emotions of more than a million people are aroused to great heights. A public park in which there is a big grandstand is selected as the place for the public reception.

Thousands of people will soon surge into the park to see and hear the international hero. Hurred preparations are made not only for a fitting reception but for handling the crowd. Thousands of school children are to be given a preferential place in front of the grandstand. Heads of the police and military organizations of the community hold a conference to perfect plans and make assignments for handling the procession and the crowd. It is discovered that with all available policemen, firemen and military forces on the job, there is still need for organized and trained men to do many things. "How about the Boy Scouts?" "Just the group we need to complete the arrangements," said the generalissimo in charge of the preparations. More than a thousand Boy Scouts are willingly pressed into service—to do what? Not to wield the authority of policemen; not to escort the dignitaries in the procession; not to parade in mass formation like the boys of the R.O.T.G.; not to guard points close to the speaker's stand where they could see and hear advantageously to themselves; not to strut on dress parade and thus "steal the show," in part, for their unit. Boy Scouts serve beyond the range of newspaper cameras; beyond the range of the voice of the international hero; beyond the glamour of military pomp; beyond the focal points of intense interest. They are the Unknown Soldiers of the occasion. They are the reserves who guarantee the success of the plans of the generals. They are mighty in their inconspicuous service in the interest of the common good. They leave the field of action unsung and unknown, but the generals in charge know that the Boy Scouts have rendered a volume and a quality of unselfish service without which there might have been serious

breaks in the ranks of an orderly and happy public assembly.

Because of favorable climatic conditions, the outdoor Easter Sunrise Service has reached stupendous proportions in several cities in California. In one of the cities of Southern California there is a great natural amphi-theatre, called a Bowl, nestling in a gulch formed by the surrounding hills. The seating capacity of the Bowl is 20,000, and the hillsides forming the Bowl furnish standing room for countless other thousands. Into this Bowl is projected the Easter Sunrise Service. Preparations for handling 50,000 people and 15,000 automobiles are perfected in advance. Boy Scouts are called upon to stand by the management—take full charge of ushering, assist in parking automobiles; direct traffic upon the main and secondary arteries of travel to the Bowl, establish and man first aid stations

At the Tenth Olympiad Boy Scouts performed invaluable service in helping to handle the vast crowds.



Courtesy Boy Scouts of America

and otherwise "Be Prepared" to meet the emergencies of the occasion.

A special detail of more than one hundred picked Scouts arrives at the Bowl the night before. They sleep under the canopy of the heavens, and in the light of the twinkling stars everlastingly associated with the heralding of the birth of the Christ. These Scouts are up at three o'clock next morning and go to their several posts of special assignment, chiefly that of directing the efforts of hundreds of other Scouts upon their arrival for Civic Service duty. On come the throngs of people. Courteously, calmly and unobtrusively, and with no other authority than the Boy Scout uniform, people are guided and directed in orderly assembly. Members of the great chorus need help in finding their places. They turn to Boy Scouts and find ready assistance. Old people who have trudged their way to the Bowl drop from physical and emotional exhaustion. They are taken out of the paths of traffic and are adequately cared for by Boy Scouts. Traffic jams of automobiles are untangled by the calm direction of Boy Scouts. Way is made through the crowd for the dignitaries who arrive late.

Soon the Easter Sunrise Service is on and concluded. Once again Boy Scouts swing into action in almost countless ways. Once again the Bowl is empty and the surrounding hills have regained their natural state. The hundred and more picked Scouts who have camped there overnight, and given direction to hundreds of other Scouts, gather up their blankets and start for home, tired and hungry, but happy. They have seen 50,000 people give beautiful expression to the culminating item of the Scout Law, and they have rendered the fullest measure of Civic Service duty to that end. They are only Boy Scouts on Civic Service duty, unknown and unsung, but nevertheless they are participating citizens who have helped to engineer and manage a great community enterprise. They have rendered such valuable service as to gain for themselves spiritual fellowship with the Unknown Soldier.

The Community Chest, in a city of over a million population, is in the throes of planning its annual campaign for funds. The Chest in this city has never reached its goal, and this year there are

to be extraordinary efforts to go over the top. Every organized body in the community has been appealed to lend aid. The Boy Scouts are not new at the job, for year in and year out they, in good number, have been the chore boys for many weeks prior to and throughout the Chest campaign. To gain a certain psychological effect upon the public, the campaign managers wish to place in a house-to-house distribution a striking campaign booklet, all in one day and just at the moment of opening the campaign for funds. It will cost the Chest several hundred dollars to hire the job done in accordance with the plans outlined. How can the house-to-house distribution be done, thoroughly and at no expense to the Chest?

Boy Scouts are the answer to the problem. They are recruited and organized to cover the entire city in one day. They distribute in house-to-house visitation 250,000 campaign booklets. Computing their time at no more than twenty-five cents per hour, Boy Scouts save the Community Chest no less than \$600.00 on this one job . . . and that just one of many jobs done for the Chest extending over many weeks of consecutive and faithful service. That year the Community Chest campaign goes over the top for the first time. Unknown and unsung, Boy Scouts have played the part of participating citizens in a great community enterprise. They receive no loving cups, medals, scrolls or parchments for the service rendered, but the thoughtful men and women of the Community Chest organization know that the Troops and Patrols from whence these Scouts came were producing "men" — Community-minded and community-service citizens; men like unto the Unknown Soldier.

The Tenth Olympiad of the world-wide Olympic Games is being held in Los Angeles. The games are for amateurs, but their conduct and management is in the hands, in the main, of a vast army of professionals. There is nothing for Boy Scouts to do directly to aid in this great enterprise. Olympic Village, where nearly 2,000 athletes live, is guarded and serviced by paid workers. All of the ushering at the stadium is in the hands of paid men. The games are, in the last analysis, a stupendous financial enterprise. They must earn more than a million dollars to pay the

The Boy Scouts of America, in adopting a ten year training plan for the boys of America, has set for itself a gigantic task. In the achievement of this objective all who believe in scouting may help. To this end the organization asks the cooperation of all American citizens in helping to carry through its plan for the good of the country.

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The Costume Cupboard

By HESTER PROCTOR
Supervisor, Educational Dramatics
San Francisco Recreation Commission

With drama as important as it is in the recreation program, many recreation departments are making special provision for the care of costumes.

"COSTUMES!" Magic word that conjures up in everyone's mind innumerable memories of gay good times. Every child and most grown-ups as well, never lose the thrill of "dressing-up," whether it be in something old-fashioned and different, or in a dress of the latest style.

The San Francisco Recreation Commission has equipped a building for the use of the Dramatic Department in which all costumes are made, dyed and stored. The building is of one story with skylights admitting light, air and sunshine. At one end are tubs, a gas plate and all facilities for washing and dyeing costumes. At the other end is the office equipment, such as a desk, telephone, and files. We also have a factory sewing machine which is a constant joy because of its speed and reliability.

On each side of the building are cupboards in which the costumes are kept. On one side the cupboards have shelves on which are piles of bloomers of many colors and skirts of various lengths. In fact, anything that is not hurt by folding is stored on these shelves. On the other side the cupboards have rods on which are hung the court costumes and such others as are not easily folded. On top of the cupboards are stored lights and many stage properties.

This building is the outcome of many years' work and planning. At first the costumes were kept in a closet at the City Hall. When this became too small they were moved to the attic of one of the field houses with a club room used

for sewing. This also was found to be unsatisfactory, and the only solution seemed to be a building such as we now have.

Originally most of the costumes were made by the playground directors, who met and sewed at the building on rainy days and free mornings. At times the children and parents helped in the sewing, but the bulk of the work was done by the directors who use the costumes. One playground mothers' club made and altered all costumes used by that playground. For over a year the costume making has been very differently handled.

A year ago last summer the city needed occupation for many unemployed women. Some of these people could sew and since that time there has been no lack of women who have made costumes in return for the necessities of life. They have been a most willing and cheerful lot of people who have become interested in recreation activities and are now spreading our usefulness abroad. They have greatly enjoyed seeing the costumes which they have made used in programs. There have been from four to eighteen women a week, and in the year and a half an approximate total of 462 people have been anything but unemployed for the time of their assignment at the Drama Studio.

In dealing with large numbers of costumes there are, of course, many details to be considered. The first of these is the budget, which is so often a limited one. In costumes one must find material that is substantial and yet gives the



In San Francisco an entire building has been set aside for the storing and care of the thousands of costumes used by the Recreation Commission.

desired effect. We have found that a good quality cheesecloth and unbleached muslin dye, wash and wear well, besides being adapted to many types of costume. They can be stenciled, made over and dipped many times. Paper cambric is also useful but fades if washed frequently. Ginghams and other light-fast materials are much more satisfactory in a place such as this, where costumes are used often and washed between each wearing. For court costumes sateen has the necessary richness and yet it can be dyed and washed.

For spring pageants where flowers predominate we use crepe paper. For waists we use sateen with a cheesecloth foundation skirt. On this we sew the paper in the desired form and color. In

this way, when the paper becomes torn it can be ripped off, the garment washed and new paper sewed on when needed. We found this a very satisfactory use of crepe paper.

After several years of collecting costumes there are now about three thousand from which the playground directors may choose whatever is suitable for their performances. The costumes are loaned only to directors of municipal playgrounds. Usually the director needing costumes comes to the dramatic studio, as we call the costume building, and with whatever assistance is necessary, picks out the desired costumes. These

(Continued on page 592)

Giving the City Charm

By our planning of park areas we add charm to a city or rob a city of it.

We hear and see so much of the more spectacular side of civic improvement that we are apt to forget the simple term "charm." I sometimes think that we even get into the habit of clapping our hands to our pocketbook whenever we hear of "municipal well being" as though it always meant increased taxes.

Along comes the thought of "Giving the City Charm," and strange to say we are dealing with something that although it is one of the most precious attributes of a community, costs nothing.

What Is Charm?

Often the first thing a speaker does is to define his subject. It is not easy to define the word "charm." It is one of those terms like "goodness" or "charity." One sees the results of it. It is something like trying to define a soul or the omnipotent spirit.

Would you say that a city's charm had to do with the impressive side of city making? No. Though it may accompany splendor sometimes, it is on an humbler and more simple quality. Perhaps we can get at it just a little closer by trying to answer what is charm in a human being.

I am thinking of a play I saw quite a few years ago in New York. Maude Adams and Richard Bennett played most delightfully Barrie's play, *What Every Woman Knows*. Perhaps it was the hero, John Strand; perhaps it was someone else who asked the winsome Maggie the question point blank, "What is charm?" Maggie replied, "Oh, it's a sort of bloom on a woman. If you have it you don't need to have

By F. N. EVANS
Superintendent of Parks
Sacramento, California

anything else, and if you don't have it, it doesn't much matter what else you have."

Now there is this to reflect about. The situation, both for people and for cities, would be

discouraging could a certain amount of charm not be acquired if one goes about it in the proper way. Do not suppose that a city's chances of charm are lost if it is not sprung to life with charm at the start. And babies, alas, are not all born with a charm that will stay with them after they acquire a personality.

While in the human being charm may be said to come from demeanor, breeding, manners, as a sort of aura that goes with pleasantness and an adaptable disposition, in a town or city it is the atmosphere that comes of taste, a frank handling of the materials at hand, an orderly arrangement, and a courage to be individual without freakishness. One finds charm in parts of Old Monterey, with its view of the old cypress trees overshadowing the old Custom House. We find it in some of the old adobes there. Here it is a charm of simplicity and age. We find charm in some of our modern residential subdivisions where homes are built without undue ostentatiousness, where grounds are well arranged and planted attractively. Here it is a charm of harmony, of tasteful building, and of good arrangement.

In Sacramento there are many street trees, which offer beautiful and unusual street pictures, as well as abundant shade in summer. In that city, too, the camellia bush grows unusually well. The residents pride themselves upon their street trees, and upon the camellias. Here it is the charm of individuality—of the unusual.

I think of the source of charm of some of the older parts of Boston and old world cities which I have visited. The streets were winding, some of the shops and closely built houses did one thing and some another. The whole scene took liberties at every turn, and one found one's self hastening on to discover what interesting sight might be just around the next corner. Here it was the charm of the unexpected. The charm of anticipation. The feeling that the whole city held promise to the imagination. At Brookside Park in Pasadena there is to be found charm, particularly in the actively used portions. And that is an acid test for parks and playgrounds.

Now what is the application of all this to the recreation person? To make these considerations of value we need to apply them to ourselves and to our work.

Parks Are Recreation Areas

We are witnessing a change in terms and a change in aims and motives in recreation work. For example, parks have become known as recreation areas, an important subject of discussion for recreation workers. While the word "park" and the word "playground" will always have a distinct meaning, both are recreation areas and there is no park, no matter if it is only a doormat size and with room for only one tramp to sit in, which does not have its recreational value. We may say its use is to look at, but no park is just to look at. It has a recreative value if only for that one tramp!

The element of recreation is pervasive. It enters into all public pleasure areas. It is only a question of how active a type of recreation may be offered, and how demanding

the person who haunts it may be for bodily exercise.

I speak as a park man, but I pray continually for the ability to get the playground man's point of view, too. It is highly necessary for the park man and the playground man to get on the same side of the fence. I may say that I pray continually that the playground man may get the park man's viewpoint. What a boon it would be on both sides! Is that putting it too strong?

Sometimes in the past a situation like this has been noted in some of the cities I have visited. We use here extreme viewpoints, of course, to illustrate the point. Says the playground man, "The park man thinks only of his flower beds and keeping the public off the grass," and the park man says with equal vehemence, "There goes the playground man putting a fenced-in corral in the most beautiful part of the park scene." Both need to get on the same side of the fence, or possibly each needs to exchange sides for awhile.

Any landscape scene, no matter how lovely, is helped by the presence of people in it. Did you ever examine the pictures in an art gallery? You will notice there are few if any scenes of nature unassociated with human interest. We see the rustic fence or gate, the result of man's handiwork. We see the cottage on the hillside—the lone fisherman, and so on. It takes the suggestion of a human being somewhere to give the landscape interest. Just as the delightful gardens of the palace of Versailles were designed under Louis XIV's direction with the idea of their appearance being augmented in attractiveness by the presence of hundreds of guests wandering about in



"Charm is elusive but it is not too hard to woo and win. It concerns itself with using simple elements with taste in arrangement-getting, harmony-avoiding discord. By attempting to do this we usually secure beauty. At least we shall avoid actual ugliness."

them, so the park designer should consider that the parks are made for the people and not the people for the parks.

We want people in them by the score—by the hundred. Parks cost a lot of money and they should be used so that the city may get its money's worth out of them. When I say "used" I do not mean "ab-used." This sometimes happens. Parks should be used as well as looked at. There is no finer sight on earth than to see happy people at play. I may be an extremist in liberality, but I find it hard always to agree with the park caretaker's attitude when he fears all the boys ruin all open areas.

On a number of occasions one of our good and faithful Sacramento park men, who cares for a certain city square, comes to my door. The moment I see him I know what he is after and before he opens his honest mouth I say, "I know, Charlie, the boys have been wearing your plaza out again. Well, just soak that place where they play so much and they will move to another spot."

"What!" he says, perplexed at me, "and let them wear out another place!" and I say soothingly—only it doesn't soothe Charlie—"As long as the worn patch doesn't show up terribly from the street, don't you think we'd better let the boys play?"

If any of you are park men, you know that if you see a much worn trail caused by hundreds of feet crossing through a lawn you may just as well put in a path first as last. It is a good deal the same with play spots.

You and I, dealing with public open spaces, can do our share in "Giving the City Charm." Let me propound a problem in logic to you. If it is true that one of the finest sights in the world is to see children at play, and if parks afford many opportunities for the establishment of play spaces, is it not best so to place and arrange and handle our play spaces that while giving all the room that is needed for play, they add to rather than detract from the park's appearance?

Playgrounds Can Add Charm to Parks

It can be done. Play apparatus can be put in a city square without ruining it. If one insists on a wire fence to go with it, that may be another matter. Stockton has done it with excellent effect. There is just enough apparatus to provide for needs, no more. San Jose

has a fine playfield with a park-like edge, a beautiful example of what other cities might do. Charm may, and should, go hand in hand with recreational development. An area need not be ugly because it is a playground. Some play directors, I fear, defend an unsightly area by saying that it is safe and useful. So is a broom useful, but one does not drag it into the parlor when company comes.

In Colorado Springs recently a downtown area that was about as useful as a doily over a chair as far as serving any real purpose was concerned, was made over so as to provide recreation for roque, chess players, bowls, horseshoes, and other things. Whereas aforetime it had two hundred visitors a day, now it has five hundred, and I understand that the appearance of the place is not harmed in the least by the operation.

We should have more major operations.

Several years ago I stepped off a trolley car in Philadelphia near Fairmount Park, one of the largest and one of the most used parks in the country. I cut through from the car to the park by a path, and though I spent the whole day in the park photographing and studying it, the picture that lasts most strongly in my mind was the first one I saw. I came upon a broad lawn surrounded by trees, and there in the middle was a wading pool with a hundred children wading and laughing and splashing in it. Did the playground detract from the charm of the park? No, it added to it.

When we see how well the problem of locating playground facilities in a park is handled in Brookside Park at Pasadena, we realize that this is done through an evident careful cooperation of officials and planners in working out problems of use and appearance.

Let us not lose sight of the value of charm to our cities. It is one of the most precious assets our communities can possess. What is it that takes thousands of Americans to Europe each year? Is it to see the banks, the factories, or the business establishments? It is, you will grant, to absorb the charm of those places where needful things have been made beautiful.

As recreation officials you have it in your power to detract much. You may make or you may mar. Look for your opportunity and meet it thoughtfully when it comes!

On St. Patrick's Day

**When green's the only color
and the shamrock's supreme!**

THREE IS NO limit to the good times which the St. Patrick party offers. No other occasion affords such opportunity for the exercise of the famous Irish wit. And what decorations are more effective than the green and the shamrocks of Ireland?

The Guests Arrive

Such a device as the following may be used if desired to keep the guests in teams and facilitate the playing of group games:

As each guest arrives he may be assigned to one of four families—the Murphys, the Maloneys, the Mulligans or the McCarthys, keeping the groups as even in members as possible. Each family has its own insignia: Murphys—band of green around the arm; Maloneys—large green run around the neck; Mulligans—tall green dunce hat; McCarthys—green bow under the chin.

As the guests arrive a letter is given each person which he is asked not to show to anyone else. When all the guests are gathered the signal is given to begin. The first group to form the words "Saint Patrick" wins. These sets of St. Patrick letters are made, either cut out or just written on printed pieces of paper, and there are enough for all participants. Be sure that if forty-eight people are present four complete sets are distributed.

These family or St. Patrick groups may act as teams during the entire evening.

To match partners, potatoes cut from brown cardboard are hidden, the girls' in one room, the men's in another. On the men's potatoes questions are written to be answered by some word or words or expression containing green written on one of the girls' potatoes. After finding a potato, each man searches for the girl who holds the answer to his question. She becomes his partner either for the next game or for refreshments.

**The 17th of March in the avenin'
Has been chosen by a few
To have a good old Irish fight
And we're inviting you.
Please come all ready for the fray;
We want you on the scene.
You'll find the place quite aisily;
'Twill all be trimmed in green.**

Questions

1. A delicious apple.
2. A plum.
3. A tree.
4. Mountains in Vermont.
5. A place where flowers are kept.
6. An inexperienced person.
7. A dealer in fresh vegetables.
8. A kind of a green we all want.
9. A bird.
10. A poison.
11. A famous artists' colony.
12. Jealousy.

Answers

1. Greening.
2. Green gage.
3. Evergreen.
4. Green mountains.
5. **Greenhouse.**
6. Greenhorn.
7. Green grocer.
8. Greenback.
9. Green finch.
10. Paris green.
11. Greenwich Village.
12. Green eyes.

Before the refreshments are served a large hat (green) is brought around. Each girl picks out a small green hat while each boy picks out a white pipe on which numbers have been written. The boy finds the girl with the corresponding number on her hat and they become partners for refreshments.

Games

Pig in the Parlor. If the family idea is used one family at a time forms a circle, facing the center with feet astride and touching the foot of the next player, while the members of the opposing families try to roll a ball or balls into the center from the outside, getting the pig (balls) into the parlor. The family or group whose parlor remains pigless for the longest time wins.

Irish Relay. Families or groups form in files, each file facing a pencil and paper on a table or

some hard surface on which to write. On the signal to begin the first person in each row runs to the pencil and paper, writes a word, then carries the pencil back to the second person in line who runs up, writes another word, etc. The first team to finish the sentence, "There is nothing too good for the Irish" wins.

Snatch Paddy's Pig. Each group forms one side of a large square. From left to right each family is numbered or given such names as Pat, Mike, Jerry, Kitty, Maggie, Kathleen, etc. The leader calls out the numbers or names and four players respond, one from each family or group who attempts to get the "pig" back to his side. Score is kept. One point is scored each time the pig is brought over the line or if one side catches the snatcher. Two groups may be used with a smaller crowd.

Shamrock March. Contestants are lined up as for a relay game, the first in each line being given two large cardboard shamrocks. The signal to start is given and each of the first contestants places his foot on one of the shamrocks, places the other shamrock one step ahead and then puts his other foot on that, takes the other foot off, puts that one step ahead and so on, continuing in this manner to the goal. They now run back giving the shamrocks to the next in line. Contestants are not allowed to shuffle along with both feet on the shamrocks or to step off them.

Pig-Tail Race. Each group is in file formation. About twenty-five feet away is a pig-tail, one for each group, braided with two shades of green and one white strip of cambric one yard long. On the signal to go the first person in line runs up, unbraids the plait, braids it again and runs back to tag off number two and so on. The line finishing first wins.

Irish Potato Snatch. Players form a circle around potatoes which have been placed in the center on the floor. (There is one less potato than the number of players.) When the music stops each player tries to snatch a potato. After each snatch one potato is removed with the player who did not secure one. These players sit down on the side and clap their hands to the rhythm of the music. The last one in the circle wins.

Pat's Hat. A large hat is cut from green cardboard and pinned to a sheet which is hung over a door. Each person in turn is given a shamrock with a pin and attempts, blindfolded, to pin it on Pat's hat.

Snakes St. Patrick Drove Out of Ireland. A pencil and paper are given each person on which to write down the answers to the following:

1. Worn a few years back in winter time by women—Boa
2. Worn all the year around—Garter
3. Baby plays with it and never gets hurt—Rattle
4. An Indian wears it with comfort—Moccasin
5. Indian head penny—Copperhead

Matching of the Green. Six or eight samples of different shades of green material are chosen. These samples are cut in half, numbered and hung about the room. A key of the matching pieces is kept by the leader. Paper and pencils are given the players who attempt to match samples using the numbers, such as 1-12 are from the same piece. The person with the nearest correct list wins.

Irish Juggling. For this trick provide four shamrocks and four pipes cut from cardboard. The leader tells the players that they must arrange the eight cards in such a manner in their hand that when they put them on the table, one at a time, by placing a card, slipping one to the bottom of the pack, placing a card on the table and slipping one, etc., the cards will alternate a shamrock and a pipe, a shamrock and a pipe, etc. The trick is to arrange them in the following manner: two shamrocks, one pipe, two shamrocks and three pipes.

Shamrock Confusion. For this stunt three shamrock are used. The one who is starting the game puts the three shamrocks on the table. He then picks them up, counting each one aloud as he does so, saying slowly "one, two, three." Then he lays them down again, counting "four, five, six." Next he picks two of them up, saying "seven, eight." There is one shamrock left on the table. He then hands all three of the shamrocks to another player and tells him to see if he can count them just as he has done and have only one shamrock on the table at the end of his count of eight.

Fortune. Each guest receives an Irish potato. The number of eyes in each potato is indicative of his fortune. A chart on the wall tells that (1) means foes; (2) presents; (3) friends; (4) beau; (5) travel; (6) courtship; (7) wealth; (8) broken heart; (9) happily married; (10) single blessedness.

Blarney Race. Partners face each other across the room. At a signal those on one side of

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Wanted - Old Buildings!

They may seem hopeless at first, but you'll be delighted with the result.

ON DECEMBER the eleventh, Toledo, Ohio, opened its first city operated recreation building with addresses by the Mayor, a representative of the Council of Churches and the editors of three daily newspapers, and with the announcement of a schedule of activities for children and adults which will keep the building occupied from 10:00 A. M. to 11:00 P. M.

Last October the city turned over to the Recreation Department a well built three story brick building in a congested neighborhood formerly used as the medical school of Toledo University. Through relief labor the building was cleaned, painted, repaired and remodeled from cellar to roof. Plantings were set out in a small space between the building and sidewalk. The rooms were furnished almost entirely by gifts from individuals and organizations. The Mayor supplied gymnasium equipment; luncheon clubs equipped rooms for club meetings; one citizen provided tables and one hundred chairs for a large meeting room, and individuals gave a piano, radio, office furniture, clocks, pictures and games. The city library established a branch. One room was equipped as a reading room with papers and periodicals. Another was furnished for musical groups. A third was set aside for card and table games, while a fourth was devoted to handball. There was no stage and no room large enough for basketball or team games, but the eighteen available rooms furnished opportunity for many activities.

Regular groups include a young peoples' orchestra, children's classes in games and dances, gym-

nasium classes for men and for women, and opportunities for an individual to enjoy pool, handball, woodworking, reading and similar activities. Special activities have included a course for leaders in social recreation with seventy-five representatives of churches, settlements and young peoples' organizations, and a course of lectures.

A Garage As a Social Center

In South Orange, New Jersey, half of the City Garage has been converted into a social center for the unemployed and others interested in attending. By assigning one of the workers to night duty, the problem was solved of having someone present all the time without additional cost. Since the place is already heated the only expense is sixty cents a night for electricity. Games, magazines and a radio have been donated and passes to motion picture theatres and football games have been provided.

A Fraternal Hall Becomes a Recreation Center

Old Moose Hall in Belleville, New Jersey, has been taken over by the Recreation Commission and is being developed as a recreation center. The owners of the building have rented to the Commission two floors and are supplying the lumber

for the erection of handball backs and other apparatus and for repairing the building. All of this work, including special wiring, was done by the unemployed.

The program provides periods for every age group and an afternoon and evening for colored citizens. On the first floor

Two things have been outstanding in developments in local recreation programs as recreation departments have faced decreased funds. One is the ingenuity which is being shown by many recreation workers in using existing facilities which normally would not be thought of as possible assets. The other is the remarkable increase in facilities which made work programs have made possible. In this brief article mention is made of some of the new recreation centers in the acquisition of which both ingenuity and the wise planning of made work programs have had a part.

WANTED — OLD BUILDINGS!

there is an entrance hall and combination gymnasium and auditorium with stage and balcony; on the second floor a large room about forty feet square and another room approximately half this size. The large room contains a ping-pong table—two more tables are being made—and one card table. Benches will be placed around the wall. Adjoining is the exercise and play room with gymnasium equipment.

A minimum of ten men have been assigned from the unemployed to aid the Superintendent of Recreation, and a schedule has been made out which makes it possible for the building to be open from nine in the morning until eleven at night. A local paper, reporting on the progress of the project, speaks of it as "an employed and unemployed center planned by the employed, built by the unemployed and used by both."

Centers in Other Cities

In Lima, Ohio, a community center has been opened for the unemployed under the auspices of the Recreation Board. The center occupies an old building, vacant for a number of years, which was once an armory and is now owned by the Knights of Pythias. The building which has been cleaned and reconditioned by unemployed labor, includes a gymnasium 180' by 120', balcony 40' by 120', and two rooms about 20' by 20' which are being equipped, one as a reading room, the other as a quiet game room. The balcony will be used for such games as ping-pong and pool, and a radio will be installed here. Much of the material, furniture, books and games has been donated. Tickets will be given to those registered at the employment bureau. They will be used merely for identification purposes and will not be demanded for admission.

In Paterson, New Jersey, a building owned by the city has been secured by the Board of Recreation for the use of the unemployed. Eight men from the Emergency Unemployment Bureau have been assigned to prepare the center for use. Rooms for reading and for quiet games will be provided. The second center, a vacant store, has been secured through a building loan association.

A request has been placed with the United States District Attorney to make available to the Board for equipping the centers some of the furniture taken in raids of speakeasies. Both centers are located in sections badly in need of such buildings.

In East Cleveland, Ohio, forty-five unemployed high school graduates have established club rooms in a garage. The project is being sponsored by the East Cleveland Commission on Unemployed Young Men, including the Y.M.C.A., school and church organizations. The garage will be used for the present only as a recreation room but later it is planned to add a steam presser and a carpenter shop for the use of the members. The group has been formally organized with elected officers.

Centers have been established in a number of the communities of Westchester County, New York. In Ossining, for example, a building provided by the Board of Education has been taken over by the Recreation Commission which has a gymnasium and various game rooms. Another portable building belonging to the schools is also available.

In an old building next to Madison House, New York City, a group of

older boys have established headquarters which they have furnished and decorated. Here they are carrying on a crafts program and are making book shelves and other articles which they are selling whenever a market can be found. For their athletic and social activities they are attending Madison House.

"Free Time Activities for Unemployed Young Men," issued by the Association Press, New York City, tells of the rehabilitation of an empty storeroom in Yakima, Washington, as a center for unemployed young men. The free use of the room was secured from the owner. Furniture stores were asked to supply used tables and chairs, and folding chairs were secured from the Chamber of Commerce and park benches from the city. A radio was loaned by a hardware store and a piano by a music house. Games, magazines

(Continued on page 593)

The Need for Recreation Buildings

A significant prophecy from the
American Institute of Architects

"We are going to turn our attention to parks, municipal and national, and to the building of swimming pools, outdoor gyms and country hotels."

A CHANGE will take place in buildings, and "this change will be not only in style but in kind," it is declared in a report of the Committee on Industrial Relations of the American Institute of Architects, of which William Orr Ludlow is chairman.

"The increase in leisure time will create a demand for the kind of building that leisure time will need. The kind of building that will be required first will certainly not be the skyscraper. Dwellings and institutional buildings, schools, hospitals, churches, and similar non-commercial buildings will probably lead the way.

"There is, however, a new factor in the situation that will mean building along another line. The new factor is shorter hours of labor and longer hours of leisure. A 'five-day week' is practically an accomplished fact, and perhaps the 'four-day week' is just around the corner, for we shall keep on inventing machinery to replace handwork.

"Whether the outcome is 'five days' or 'four days,' the average man and woman will have an unprecedented amount of leisure time that is going to be filled with recreation and amusement. Already the automobile has changed our manner of living, and it will be the means of making the greatest use of out-of-doors and the buildings that go with it. The time is not far away when the heart of our great cities will be abandoned as places for residence, and will be given over to office buildings, centers for the distribution of freight and passengers by rail, bus and airplane.

"Amusements, shops, and residences are already beginning the process of decentralization,

as one can readily see by the establishment in suburban towns of branches of our department stores, of moving picture houses and legitimate theaters, and by the popularity of out-of-town apartment houses. Even in these times, when there is apparently no money for building, people have been building private residences in suburbs and country.

"City congestion reached its limit in 1929, and the many nostrums which simply seemed to make the disease worse are giving way to the obvious cure—taking the people away from the city and not into it. It is probable that skyscrapers will not be built for many a long day. We are going to turn our attention to parks, municipal and national, and to the building of swimming pools, outdoor gyms and country hotels.

"The additional leisure will also promote buildings of many sorts for indoor recreation and amusement. Theatres and movie houses will flourish, great gyms for football, baseball, tennis, skating and the like will be built to make outdoor sports possible indoors, for winter and at night. Our colleges, schools, hospitals and charitable institutions are even now at full capacity, and better times and more available money will bring about a great expansion of these and the new housing necessary to accommodate them.

"Wiping out the Eighteenth Amendment, without the return of the saloon, but with more general leisure, may well bring about the European way of drinking, and we shall be building beer gardens, dance pavilions, and music halls.

(Continued on page 593)



Courtesy Detroit Recreation Department

World at Play

Mexico Profits by Recreation Congress

from the Mexican participation in the International Recreation Congress held in Los Angeles last July, states a Mexican newspaper. This is particularly true of Monterey, the capitol of the State of Nueva Leon, which sent six delegates to the Congress. The Director General of Public Instruction is planning a series of sports events for adults. There is a particular interest in distance running in the five, eight and ten thousand meter events. A new building for the Department of Physical Education contains two gymnasiums, one large enough to accommodate three games of basketball for practice periods, or to accommodate one game and 2,500 spectators for exhibition purposes. The building contains also dressing rooms and showers for men, women and juvenile work. The entire plant is to be used for social recreation as well as for athletics. The new building occupies an entire block adjoining the Plaza de Zaragoza, and will cost 125,000 pesos. It is expected to be the most complete recreation structure in the entire Republic of Mexico.

A College to Teach Use of Leisure

utilization of leisure. Hobbies and avocations will be

STIMULATION of recreation and physical education work in Mexico has resulted

encouraged by the courses which have for their purpose the preparation of individuals to utilize to the fullest the spare time that will be theirs in the new social order predicted. These courses will be offered during the evening so that employed as well as unemployed may take advantage of them. Gardening, astronomy, photography, radio, birds, politics, appreciation of art and after dinner speaking are among the studies outlined. Other courses will encourage interest in religion, philosophy, the languages, history, psychology and the laboratory sciences.

Construction Projects in Los Angeles

A SUMMARY of construction projects undertaken by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department in 1932 shows a total of \$451,937 spent in improvements to the municipal playgrounds and recreation centers effected under terms of the Department's \$1,000,000 unemployment relief bond issue voted in 1931. The balance of the bond fund was applied to the construction program of that year. The projects included the swimming stadium, seven community buildings and field houses at the municipal playgrounds, with three additional structures of this type being erected at the present time. In addition, a dozen tennis courts were installed together with other facilities, such as wading pools, children's play apparatus, and adult recreation facilities. A number of existing build-

ings and facilities were repaired and remodeled. Municipal beaches received extensive improvements, Cabrillo Beach having been developed into one of the finest seaside recreational areas on the Pacific Coast through the addition of a bath house and community recreation building, walks, drives, landscaping, pergolas, picnic facilities, and children's playground.

From Swamp to Playground—Hellrunn Playground in Alton, Illinois, is the only play area in the city definitely set aside permanently as a playground. One hundred fifty yards long and about 100 yards wide, it is located in the inside of a block. A short time ago it was a dump full of stagnant water. With the help of twenty-five unemployed men who worked for nearly a month, the dump has been converted into an attractive ground. Interested citizens in the neighborhood have conducted a campaign to secure funds to purchase two adjoining lots.

Made Work Projects—A new nine hole municipal golf course is nearing completion in Baltimore, Maryland, ten years ahead of time because of the unemployment relief program. Two hundred and sixty acres at Mount Pleasant Park, purchased several years ago and originally intended as a bird sanctuary, have been cleared of underbrush and converted into a golf course. The budget of the Park Department would not have made this possible had it not been for the labor furnished by the Emergency Work Bureau. From 400 to 700 men have been given work through the project.

San Diego, California, has also been making use of relief labor which has resulted in the building of a new golf course, bridle paths and other major features in Balboa Park, the construction of a new district playing field and swimming pool which when completed will cost nearly \$90,000 and will give the city one of the finest playing field parks on the Coast.

In the winter of 1931-32, \$5,000 was raised in Red Wing to provide work for the unemployed. The project chosen was the landscaping of the old stone quarry in Memorial Park. The former quarry is now a beautiful rock garden with parking places where visitors may view the landscape for miles up and down the Mississippi Valley.

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many different denominations participating, the Los Angeles Church Centered Recreation Institute was held January 19th and 26th. Demonstrations of recommended activities for churches were held and there were addresses on such subjects as cultural activities in the church program and service activities for church young people. The institute was sponsored by a committee representing churches of all denominations and the city's Recreation Department.

Successful Drama Groups—Last season was the most successful one which the Outing Club Players of Glens Falls, New York, ever had. Three players were given: "The Show-Off," "To the Ladies," and "The Perfect Alibi." A number of steps were taken which added greatly to the success of the program. First, a permanent director was secured; second, a permanent property committee was organized, and third, two full sets of scenery were purchased.

At the Church of All Nations on New York's Bowery, a group known as the "Melting Pot Players" has been organized and over forty young people are producing experimental plays as recreation because they love the theatre. Carl Glick,



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Everett B. Sherman

The sudden death on December 10, 1932, of Mr. Everett B. Sherman, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation of the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts, brought to an untimely close a long and useful public service. From early in 1919 to the end of 1932 Mr. Sherman had served as executive of the New Bedford Park and Recreation Department. During this period several valuable properties were added to the park and recreation system; many major improvement projects were launched and successfully carried out; most of the recreation facilities now possessed by the department were planned and constructed and the beauty of the parks greatly enhanced. It was during his regime that the city assumed responsibility for providing playgrounds under leadership.

Mr. Sherman had executive ability of a high order and the faculty of inspiring a fine sense of loyalty and ideals of service in his associates. He enjoyed to an unusual degree the confidence of the members of the Park Department and of the general public.

founder of the San Antonio Municipal Theatre, is their director. Daniel Frohman, Hilda Spong and Mabel Foote Hobbs are among those interested in the group. A new and provocative play, "Enemies at Home," was the first offering of the players early in December.

American Physical Education Association to Hold Annual Convention—From April 25th to 29th the American Physical Education Association will hold its thirty-eighth annual convention in Louisville, Kentucky. The convention proper will open officially on Wednesday noon and close Friday night, thus making possible a full week-end for visiting historic places in and around Louisville. The schools, the City Recreation Department and other local groups will hold a number of demonstrations. Further information may be secured from H. T. Taylor, Local Convention Manager, Board of Education.

Recreation Section at A. P. E. A. Meeting—The program of the Eastern District Convention of the American Physical Education Association to be held in Springfield, Massachusetts, April 5th to 8th, has a recreation section meeting on Thursday, April 6th at 9:30 in the First Congre-

gational Church. John C. Kieffer, Division of Physical and Health Education, Philadelphia Board of Public Education, is chairman of the section. Ernst Hermann, Director of Recreation, Newton, Massachusetts, will discuss the subject, "The Individual Activities of Childhood Influence to a High Degree the Complete Enjoyment of Later Life." James A. Moyer, President, National Commission on Enrichment of Adult Life, will talk on "Recreation in Relation to the Enrichment of Adult Life," and Arthur T. Noren of the National Recreation Association will have as his subject, "Selecting Games to Fit the Interest, Abilities and Needs of Children." There will be a recreation demonstration on April 5th.

Play Streets

(Continued from page 560)

with the Bronx and lower west side of Manhattan a close second.

The equipment which was purchased proved excellent for play street use and withstood the wear and tear of over fifty days of hard service. Shuffle board met with great favor on the part of the boys, while paddle tennis proved popular with the girls. During the months of August and September games of indoor basketball on a box ball court were introduced on a number of the streets of the Bronx and Manhattan.

The demonstration proved to be both practical and economical.

They Voted "Yes" for Recreation

(Continued from page 564)

The committees having been formed in July and August, frequent contact was maintained with them by the recreation board. They were supplied with campaign material outlining the existing recreation program and giving the principal talking points for recreation at this time, particularly in Parkersburg.

Strategy in Parkersburg differed from that in Canton with respect to the tax feature. In Parkersburg the question at issue was renewal of the existing levy, the Board of Education having decided to conduct a referendum on it. The campaign was conducted as an attempt to secure a vote of confidence. Little reference was made to the tax feature in view of the general propaganda conducted in the newspapers and business interests for tax reduction.

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Rallying the Vote

As far as was known there was no organized opposition to the recreation program. Hence every care was taken not to arouse such opposition. Effort was centered on getting to the polls voters favorable to recreation and swinging over those who were lukewarm or in doubt. No time was wasted in arguing with people who were opposed to the continuance of the levy.

In response to a letter from the chairman of the board the principal organizations of the city gave time to speakers advocating the recreation measure. Most of the speaking was done by two of the board members, the principal of the high school, the principal of the junior high school, a prominent member of the Junior League, a former superintendent of recreation and the existing executive, D. D. Hicks. Reports of all activities were given the public through the papers and endorsements of groups and individuals were solicited and made public. During the final ten days of the effort publicity was intensified, editorials were secured, the approval of influential men and women was quoted in the press, and exhibits of handcraft, nature work and photographs

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were put on view in downtown store windows. One of the clinching efforts during the final drive consisted of letters to members of the community groups which had recently opened community centers inviting their support and urging them to solicit the votes of their friends, relatives and neighbors. "I feel that this was valuable to us since these people were the ones who had derived great benefit in the past years and who were anxious to be maintained," writes Mr. Hicks.

Similarly team captains and managers of leagues and all who had benefited by the picnic

Observations and Tests Of Swimming at the 1932 Olympic Games

By THOMAS K. CURETON, JR., B. S.,
M. P. E., Professor of Applied Physics
and Animal Mechanics, also Director of
Aquatics and Coach of Swimming at the
International YMCA College, Spring-
field, Massachusetts.

March issue

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and social recreation service and other services of the department were urged to assist in the campaign. The final vote was three to one for the measure, every precinct giving a favorable majority.

The Battle Creek Referendum

The vote in Battle Creek was a referendum called by the City Commission on the continuance of municipal appropriations for the sports and recreation program sponsored by the Civic Recreation Association. This quiet campaign centered chiefly around newspaper publicity, talks before numerous organizations, the personal work of the thousand members of the Civic Association, and the cooperation of the Parent-Teacher Association. The Civic Association, made up principally of members of basketball and baseball teams and their officers, worked very successfully for votes among their neighbors and friends.

The newspapers gave excellent news and editorial support. There was no organized opposition, although tax reduction was very much in the air.

The success of these campaigns at a time like this seems to show that however much citizens are interested in economy in governmental affairs, they stand ready to sustain good recreation programs when given the opportunity to express their convictions.

A Bag O'Tricks Party

(Continued from page 568)

dian's son but the big Indian was not the little Indian's father. What relation were they?

(7) Two men living in cities a hundred miles apart rode toward each other on their bicycles at the rate of ten miles an hour. A fly sitting on the forehead of one of them started off at the same time flying fifteen miles an hour. He flew back and forth between the two men until he died of exhaustion just as the two men passed each other. How many miles did he travel?

(8) A bookworm ate its way from the first page of the first volume of a set of books to the last page of the last volume. The inside of each book measured two inches and each of the covers one-quarters of an inch. The set consisted of twenty volumes. How many inches did he travel?

The Answers:

(1) He fills the five, then empties that into the three-quart measure. He now has two quarts in the five-quart measure. After emptying the three-quart measure, he pours the two remaining quarts into it from the five-quart measure. Then he fills the five-quart measure again and pours off one quart to fill the three-quart

measure. Four quarts now remain in the five-quart measure.

- (2) The prisoner was his son.
- (3) It took the snail sixteen days.
- (4) Twice 4 equals 8 and plus 20 equals 28. If 1/7, the 4 dead ones remain, then 24 flew away.
- (5) The boy who was tagged number six turned the tag around so as to convert six into nine and then the numbers were arranged into 931 which is divisible by seven.

(6) The big Indian was the little Indian's mother.

(7) It took the men five hours to travel one-half the distance. The fly was traveling fifteen miles an hour so he covered seventy-five miles.

(8) Most people don't realize that the books are backwards when put in a bookcase in their regular order. The first page of the first volume is next to the last page of the second volume instead of vice versa as would be expected. Therefore, the bookworm eats his way only through one cover of the first and last volumes. The distance he travels is forty-five and one-half inches.

Refreshments

Simple refreshments served in buffet style would be most appropriate for this kind of a party. A center piece for the buffet or the table on which the refreshments are placed may be a bouquet of vegetables, a head of cabbage or a cauliflower surrounded by beets, carrots and onions with parsley taking the place of the fern. The refreshments should consist of dainty sandwiches, coffee and doughnuts and nuts and candy. Hide among the real refreshments some April Fool ones. A few rings of raw cotton may be dipped in batter and fried into doughnuts. April Fool caramels can be made by cutting paraffin in squares and coating with chocolate. Chocolate chips may be made by dipping tiny pieces of wood in melted chocolate. Brown paper shredded will make a realistic meat filling for a sandwich. Don't have too many "fakes" or your guests will be on their guard and those you have prepared will lose their point. If the group is not too large a dozen or so will insure plenty of laughter.

Lo - The Poor Judge

(Continued from page 572)

Players.' Each member of the Milwaukee Players must also be actively connected with a social center drama club, and carry back to his group what he gains at the meetings of the Players."

So much of the value of the tournament can be preserved and so much dissatisfaction can be dispelled by allowing the judges to tell repre-

sentatives of the different groups wherein they fell short and why the winning play was superior, that it is our hope that some discussion of the sort will become part of every tournament procedure, especially when the participants are young people.

Spiritual Fellowship With the Unknown Soldier

(Continued from page 575)

expense of organization, management and conduct. Boy Scouts, like other groups of citizens, are denied free admission, even if willing to work within the arena. Traffic arrangements and safeguards have been worked out far in advance, and policemen only are entrusted with this exacting job. The overseas delegations of athletes are met at the railroad stations and ushered to Olympic Village in special automobile buses, escorted by motorcycle policemen.

Great as the Olympic Games are, and the center of universal attraction, the community is alive with many other attractions and events. Great national and international conventions are being held as accessories of the Olympic Games. A

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stupendous pageant—"California Welcomes the World"—is held in the Hollywood Bowl. This event is so appealing to the public and so overwhelmingly attended, it must be repeated within a few days to satisfy the thousands of people unable to gain entrance to the first performance. A new state building in Los Angeles is being dedicated. Exposition Park in which the great Olympic Stadium is located, seating 105,000 people, is the scene of a colorful Olympic tree planting ceremony. All of these events are attended by city, state, national and international dignitaries, and a multitude of common people. The most distinguished members of the International Committee of the Olympic Games attend and participate in these events. While Boy Scouts are not permitted to take a direct hand in the conduct and management of any of the Olympic Games events, they are overwhelmed with calls for service in support of the accessory events. Early and late they rush hither and yon, doing their bit as participating citizens in helping their city welcome the world. The public press is too busy announcing hourly and daily events and chronicling the endless story of the Olympic Games, to pay any attention to the hundreds of Boy Scouts on Civic Service duty. The spotlights, camera and newsreels are upon the committees, distinguished individuals and the record-breaking athletes. Boy Scouts are in the background serving patiently, faithfully and arduously in almost countless capacities. Here again the Boy Scout, in his civic service duties well performed, holds spiritual fellowship with the Unknown Soldier. The host city of this world event, the Tenth Olympiad, could not have handled the vast number of public events in such praiseworthy manner without the services of the unknown and unsung Boy Scout.

The Objective of the Boy Scouts

It is the belief of thousands of men in this country that the training a boy receives while a Scout does help him to become a useful citizen. It is in pursuit of this need that the Boy Scouts of America has set before itself a gigantic task, the objective of which is to make it possible for at least one of every four boys in this country to have the benefits of Scout training for a four year period. It is proposed that special training in community welfare shall be given to these boys as a result of which standards of citizenship shall be raised to a higher plane of understanding.

President Hoover recently presented to the Boy Scouts of America a vital statistic in the fact that whereas we deal with one million boys there are ten million who should be Scouts and have the values of Scout training. This challenge was seriously accepted and as a result what is termed as the "Ten Year Program" was adopted. By this the Boy Scouts of America hope, through the cooperative effort and the support of the American people, within a period of ten years to bring about conditions so as to insure in America that one of every four new male citizens shall be a four year Scout trained man.

Those men in Scouting who are giving leadership have pledged their support. One of the first letters received after the announcement of the plan was from a Scoutmaster near New York who wrote: "In these days of difficulty, when we read so much pessimism, by men of professed learning and responsibility, it is gratifying to learn that the Boy Scouts of America is meeting this challenge with resolution and foresight. It is likewise an inspiration to oneself to be able to feel a part of this effort."

The Costume Cupboard

(Continued from page 577)

are then listed, packed in boxes and delivered with a duplicate list. When the costumes are returned the list is carefully checked to prevent loss.

The returned costumes are put into laundry baskets and washed or cleaned as the case may be. They are then sent back to their respective cupboards and are ready for use again. So all through the year costumes come and go. They are used for many occasions, and the more they are used the happier we are as it justifies the money spent in materials.

On St. Patrick's Day

(Continued from page 582)

the room run to the others and each gives her partner an envelope containing one easy word and a pencil. The partner must open the envelope and write a complimentary couplet as quickly as possible, using the word he finds in the envelope for the rhyme. When the couplet is finished the girl rushes back to her original place against the wall. The first one back wins.

Balloon Relay Race. The leader of each line receives a green balloon. At the signal each person must pass it backwards over his head. When it reaches the end of the line, all turn and pass it back to the head again. If anyone drops the balloon he must pick it up, return to the line and pass it.

Irish Washerwoman. Two lines are formed with two in front of the line at about ten feet away holding up a clothesline. The first in each line has a basket in which are three articles of clothing and clothespins. At the signal the first in each line pins the clothes on the line and the second takes them off, and so on.

Refreshments

The refreshments may carry out the St. Patrick's Day idea in the color scheme and in the food itself. The place cards may be green gum drops with little shamrocks stuck in them. Irish club sandwiches may be served consisting of toast, roast pork and lettuce. Or an Irish salad may be used consisting of potatoes with parsley to add the green. A green gelatin salad is attractive and easy to make. Plain ice cream may be made gayer by the addition of a jaunty shamrock and tastier by the use of mint sauce. Olives, green frosted cakes and assorted green mints will add in the color scheme.

Wanted—Old Buildings!

(Continued from page 584)

and newspapers were given by interested citizens. These gifts provided club room facilities for several hundred men a day. One of the men who was a barber cut hair free for the group, with a local laundry furnishing towels. A stage and platform were built by carpenters in the group, and on Wednesday and Sunday nights open

forums were held. On Friday night the weekly entertainment program was presented, for the most part by members of the group.

The Need for Recreation Buildings

(Continued from page 585)

"We shall also build many straight highways for travel and traffic, and winding roads of scenic beauty for pleasure driving. Landscaping, planting, flowers, bridges, pavilions for rest, recreation and refreshment, public playgrounds, and golf courses, will, of course, accompany these in ever increasing numbers.

"Architects, engineers, city planners, landscape architects, builders, park boards and public officials will do well to think a little in advance of the inevitable trend of affairs. They should prepare for great building activity, taking account of our rapidly changing conditions and probable mode of living, so that whatever is done shall not be done in the costly haphazard fashion of former days, but shall be planned with careful study and comprehensive scheming for the greatest economic use and the most adequate future development."

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By Douglas Moore.
W. W. Norton and Company, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

MR. MOORE in his *Listening to Music* sets out "in pursuit of the 'hearing ear.'" He brings attention to the very stuff of which music is made—tone and its agencies, rhythm, melody, harmony, tonality, polyphony—and points out all the features, uses and effects of each element. He goes further and deals with design in music and with the various forms that have been used for it at different stages of its history. The book is delightfully readable throughout. Even when it is most thoroughly engaged in expounding the technique of harmony or polyphony it speaks of these things as a keenly intelligent person would speak of them in a good dinner conversation. Every little while it invites one to sing or play or to observe a certain melody in real music. For example, in a chapter on *Musical Tone* it says: "Suppose you sit down quietly and pay attention to the sounds about you," and then proceeds to mention such agreeable things as the songs of birds, the buzzing of insects, the wind in the trees, and also several sorts of sounds that the city dweller would hear. "Listen to these sounds carefully and see if you can pitch your voice to the approximate tone." The chapter on *Rhythm* is excellent and contains many references to excellent music. The chapters on design in music are also especially valuable.

—AUGUSTUS D. ZANZIG.



Courtesy Westchester County Recreation Commission

Morale—The Mental Hygiene of Unemployment

By George K. Pratt, M. D. Published by the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. 450 Seventh Avenue, New York City. \$25.

THIS BOOKLET has been prepared for the primary purpose of helping social workers, unemployment relief investigators and others to understand a little better what goes on in the minds of men and women who lose their jobs. A number of suggestions are offered for the treatment of mental health problems arising out of the depression. The first is that the unemployed man or woman be given a chance to *talk it out*. "For a social worker or relief investigator to cultivate deliberately the habit of being a good listener may prove half the battle in maintaining a client's morale and mental health."

Work for its own sake is also recommended. "Work for health's sake" is a vital need which helps a man maintain a feeling of worthwhileness, self-respect, and accomplishment. Almost any work will do as long as it presents a reasonably definite task. It may be sawing wood, spading a garden or painting a house. The development of recreational facilities and hobbies as a further means for conserving individual and collective mental health is strongly advocated in the report which presents instances of effective work now being done along these lines by scores of communities alive to the importance of leisure time activities as a morale measure.

Touring Storyland

By Lucile and Thurman C. Gardner. Banks Upshaw and Company, Dallas. \$1.25.

ASOURCE book for theory and style, as well as for effective stories, this publication may be used as a text for students interested in the art of story telling and as a guide for teachers and workers with children. It is divided into two sections. The first contains stories illustrating the interests of each age; the second part deals with the principles and technique of story telling from babyhood through the adult period.

Facts About Juvenile Delinquency

Publication No. 215. Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor. Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. \$10.

THIS PUBLICATION has been prepared in response to numerous requests for a non-technical outline of what the citizen needs to know about the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency. Its purpose is to present in easily available form something of the newer philosophy in regard to the whole problem of delinquency which has grown out of the studies and findings of the Delinquency Committee of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection. It discusses the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency, preventive programs, including community influences and leisure time activities, and the treatment of delinquency. Recreation workers will find it helpful to have this pamphlet in their libraries.

More Things to Make.

By Charlotte C. Jones, The Pilgrim Press, Boston. \$1.00.

This unusually attractive book contains patterns with illustrations for making forty-three articles, including paper baskets, toys, furniture, calendars, posters, transparencies and similar articles. A comprehensive index is a feature of the book.

Education As Guidance.

By John M. Brewer. Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.75.

"To examine the possibilities of a curriculum in terms of life activities in elementary and secondary schools and college" has been the objective of the author in preparing this book which deals with guiding students. He emphasizes five specific points: (1) that our guidance curriculum is formulated solely out of what life itself requires; (2) that quality of activity is to be stressed, not quantity; (3) that the definition and criteria of guidance involve student initiative; (4) that both for the individual and the groups self-guidance is the final aim, and (5) that opportunities are advocated and described for self-teaching, judicious loafing and being let alone. Guidance is to be applied only as necessary to avoid the ignorance and other dangers from which education is designed to protect and to afford the progressive development which life itself demands.

A chapter on "Guidance for Leisure and Recreation" stresses the urgent need for the school's interest in the use of leisure—for teaching children the right uses of leisure time and ways of transferring this leisure time wholesomeness to all other duties and activities.

A Handbook of Stunts.

By Martin Rodgers, M. A. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$3.00.

The material presented here as a supplement to the present programs of physical education in large city systems, is the result of an experiment conducted by the author at the request of the Board of Education of New York City. The stunts suggested, organized as they are on the rotating squad plan, will help meet the needs of the school suffering the handicap of inadequate play space. Chapter headings include Principles and Organization of Physical Education; Individual Stunts; Combat Stunts; Stunt Games; Stunt Races; Mat, Agility and Tumbling Movements; Apparatus Stunts; Athletics; Miscellaneous Self-Testing Activities, and Pyramids.

Spectatoritis.

By Jay B. Nash. Sears Publishing Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

The machine age has given leisure to man. Is man ready for it? The answer depends upon his ability to make wise choices. He may choose to be a watcher, a hirer of other people to perform for him; or he may be a doer, creating with his hands, doing imaginative thinking. Professor Nash paints a vivid picture of the dangers which lie in "spectatoritis" and urges activity—physical—mental—creative—without which there can be no growth. Our schools, he points out, must offer vital activities that challenge interests, permit achievement after difficulty and effort, and thus compel growth.

"Kit" 32.

Program Number. Edited by Lynn and Katherine Rohrbough. Church Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio. \$25.

The latest issue of the Recreation "Kit" called the Program Number, contains programs for Watch Night, April Fool, Geometry and Smile parties along with a number of other suggested programs for social occasions. New home games and a number of tricks are included.

Children's Library Yearbook.

American Library Association, Chicago. \$2.25.

The fourth Yearbook compiled by the Committee on Library Work with Children of the American Library Association is a compilation of articles by a number of librarians in the children's field and of authors of books for children. The Yearbook also contains an annotated bibliography of books and periodical articles about children's literature and reading. The material is divided into two parts: Part I includes general works, the history and the study and teaching of children's literature. Part II deals with poetry and the arts of writing and illustrating for children.

Housing Objectives and Programs.

The President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership, New Commerce Building, Washington, D. C. \$1.15.

One of the volumes of greatest interest to recreation workers coming out of the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership is this publication on objectives and programs, which outlines standards and objectives, tells of technical development, legislation and administration, presents organization programs, local and national, and lists research projects. A chapter on Education and Service tells of ways in which the findings of the report may be used to stimulate public interest and secure application of the facts and suggestions offered. The provision of playgrounds and play space in housing projects is discussed. Recreation workers may, however, question the adequacy of some of these standards.

Other volumes available from the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership are *House Design, Construction and Equipment*, an exceedingly practical book, and *Slums, Large-Scale Housing and Decentralization*, which contains a discussion of the importance of the provision of play space in connection with large-scale housing. These two volumes are also available at \$1.15 each. The complete set of eleven volumes may be secured for \$10.50, postage prepaid.

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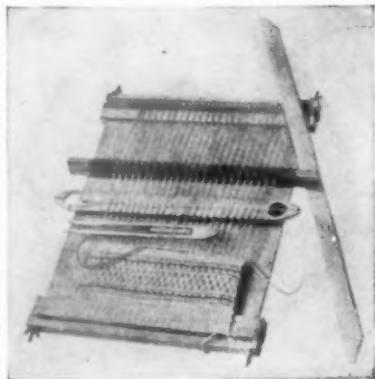
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